August 6th—August 12th, 1987, No. 32 75¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

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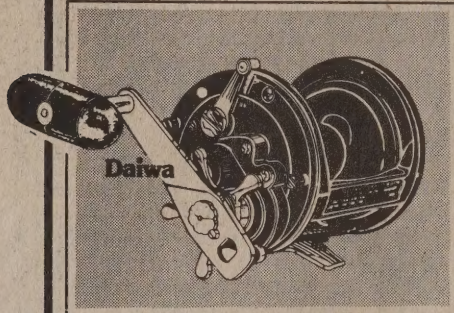

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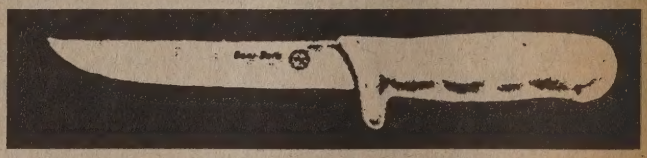

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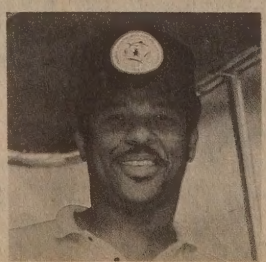

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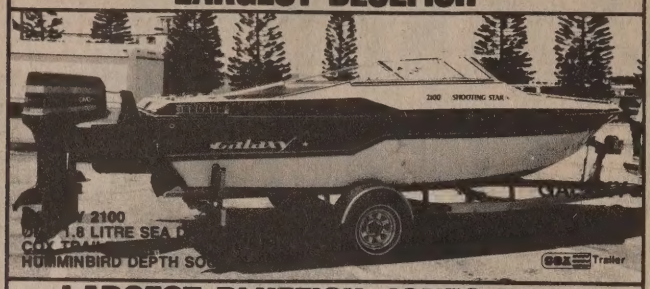

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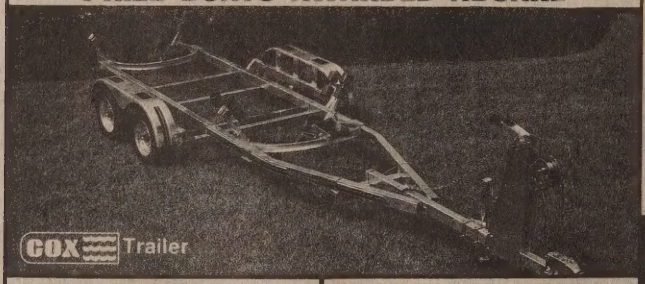

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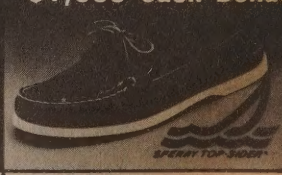

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THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Volume 22, Number 32 August 6th, 1987

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Rich Mermon removes a plug from the maw of a big striper. Coastwide regulations have resulted in a deceptively large number of bass in our waters and many anglers are concerned over an upcoming haul seine survey. For more details, see page 18. Photo by Dick Mermon.

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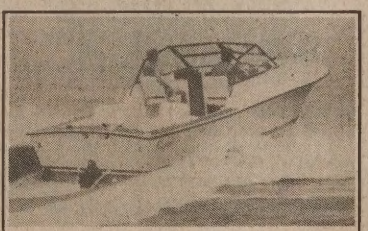

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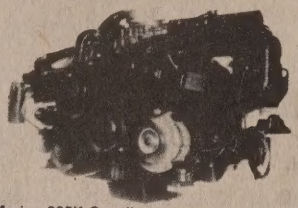

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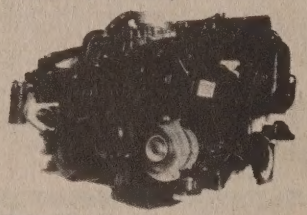

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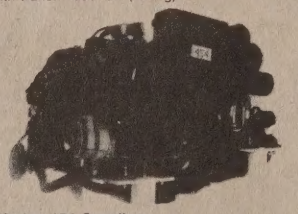

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1987 MASTER ANGLER PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The Cooperative Extension of Cornell University will again offer the Master Angler Program. The program which began in 1985, is designed to teach experienced anglers how to use their lifelong knowledge to teach fishing skills to interested newcomers. In exchange for the free 12-week course, which begins on September 22 and ends on December 15, master angler graduates are required to volunteer 20 hours of their time to fishing related community activities.

Past Master Anglers have conducted fishing clinics for the disabled, taught rod building classes, sponsored outdoor clean-ups, and run sport fishing camps for youngsters.

All classes will be held at the Nassau County Cooperative Extension Building in Plainview on Tuesday nights from 7:30PM to 9:45PM. 1985 Master Angler Graduate, Dave Romeo will coordinate this year's program.

Interested anglers can contact cooperative Extension Agent, Elizabeth Siaba, at (516) 593-9604 for applications. The class size will be limited to 30 students chosen for their dedication to sport fishing ethics and their willingness to share their skills. All completed applications must be returned to Cooperative Extension by August 24th. For more information contact Dave Romeo at (516) 483-5706 week nights between 6PM to 10PM.

SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE REVEALS CLIMATE FOR MARINE LICENSING WARMING

Saltwater license proposals continue to generate controversy, but supporters believe the climate for licensing is warming. Marine fishing license proposals are under consideration in most Atlantic States, spurred by concerns over declining fish stocks and the need for fisheries management. SFI estimates that an additional $47 million could be generated for marine fishery management if each coastal state's freshwater licensing program was expanded to apply uniformly to saltwater anglers.

Proponents of licensing say the benefits are many. The revenue raised would fund marine programs such as fisheries research and management, habitat restoration, public access, law enforcement and data collection.

Anglers are concerned with how their money is going to be used. They want to make sure their fees go to programs that benefit marine fisheries; they don't want them to wind up in a state's general coffers. The people drafting license proposals share the same concerns regarding dedicated funds and restricted receipts. "It will not to go fund roads and things like that," promised Florida Rep. Peter M. Dunbar, who introduced a saltwater license bill in his state. Supporters argue that the cost of a saltwater license is a small price to pay for restoring resources.

There is uniform marine licensing in Texas, California, Oregon, Alaska and Louisiana. Maryland requires sportsmen who fish on the Chesapeake Bay to be licensed, and Alabama licenses non-residents. Anglers in Maine and Washington must purchase salmon stamps.

License proposals have been introduced in Florida and Massachusetts. In South Carolina a governor appointed panel has just begun to study the issue. If successful, those efforts may provide the impetus for other states along the Atlantic Seaboard to pursue similar plans.

Many believe that the sport fishermen's clout would increase significantly with the advent of a sport license as it would quantify the number of marine anglers, providing them with a stronger voice in fishery decisions.

A marine license also would increase, for certain coastal states, the amount of federal money they receive from the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund, which has an allocation formula based on a state's land and water area and number of licensed anglers. In addition, license revenue could provide states with the matching contributions they need to receive Wallop-Breaux funds.

The advent of a coastal license depends on the coastal angler. Fishermen's support is necessary because of the political nature of the issue. Advocates of marine licensing believe support is growing. As anglers are faced with the continued degradation of marine resources, they will inevitably decide it is in their best interest to support and endorse marine licensing.

1987 IGFA RULE BOOK UPDATED

The International Game Fish Association has updated the 1987 edition of *The IGFA Rule Book for Freshwater, Saltwater and Fly Fishing.*

Changes include the addition of three species to the line class and fly rod world record lists. The species are Kahawai (Arripis trutta), bluefin trevally (Caranx melampygus) and mutton snapper (Lutjanus analis). Also, minor revisions were made in the wording of some rules in the equipment and angling regulations sections to clarify the intent of the rules.

This 16-page publication includes the official "International Angling Rules" with equipment and angling regulations, and IGFA "World Record Requirements," including record cate-

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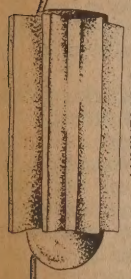

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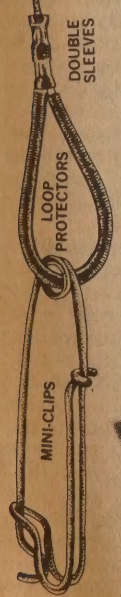

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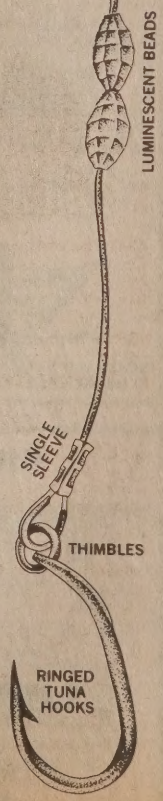

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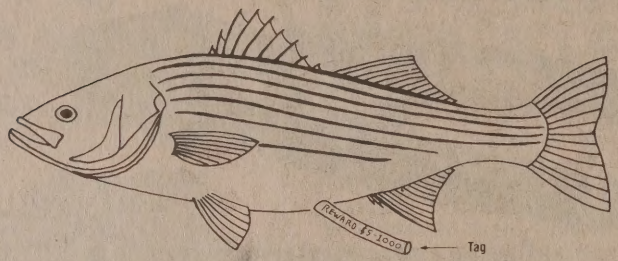

The Hudson River Foundation (HRF) is participating in a multi-year study of Hudson River striped bass population biology. You can help in this study by returning tags from striped bass you catch, and the HRF will pay for your assistance. If you catch a tagged striped bass, whether you intend to keep it* or release it, carefully cut off the tag where it passes through the fish's skin. When you return a tag, the HRF will send you the minimum reward printed on the tag ($5) and a questionnaire that asks for the date, location and method of capture, the fish's length, and the condition of the tag insertion site. Upon completion and return of the questionnaire, your tag number will be entered into a drawing to be held in February. Nine tag numbers will be randomly selected. The HRF will award $100 per tag to the first five fishermen whose numbers are drawn, $500 per tag to the next two fishermen whose numbers are drawn, and $1000 per tag to the last two fishermen whose numbers are drawn. Each tag you submit will be eligible for a reward.

*Contact your state health department if you have questions concerning the advisibility of eating striped bass

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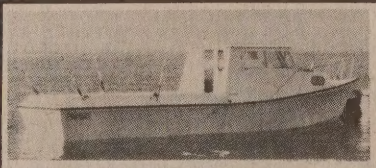

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gories, eligible species, weighing requirements and instructions for preparing a record claim.

Other items included in the Rule Book are:

- Rules for the Twelfth Annual IGFA Fishing Contest, which includes freshwater and saltwater game fish catches made on or after September 1, 1986 and ends with all entries received by IGFA as of November 30, 1987.
- Requirements and awards for IGFA's 5 to 1, 10 to 1, 15 to 1, 20 to 1 Clubs and the Thousand Pound Club.
- The official IGFA World Record and Fishing Contest Application form, which can also be used to apply for club categories.
- IGFA membership information and application form.

This Rule Book is more important than ever for the serious, competitive angler because of the large number of contests and tournaments offering prizes and awards. These special events require strict adherence to IGFA rules to be eligible for entry.

To obtain this handy guide to IGFA rules and programs, send $1 U.S. for postage and handling to: International Game Fish Association, Dept. RB 85, 3000 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316-1616, USA.

COUNCIL PUTS CONSERVATION AHEAD OF EXPEDIENCY

The traditional harpoon and rod and reel fisheries for Atlantic broadbill swordfish have all but disappeared. The average size of broadbills taken in the commercial longline fishery continues to get smaller, as the fishery moves further and further offshore in search of bigger, more marketable fish. More boats are fishing with longer lines and more hooks, but landings and catch rates are declining.

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, after consulting with the other four Atlantic councils, has re-submitted its plan to reduce fishing pressure, halt overfishing and rebuild the adult population of swordfish. The centerpiece of the plan is a system of Variable Season Closures (VSCs) which suspend fishing in certain areas when small fish (under 50 lbs.) make up a significant portion of the catch.

The closures were turned down last year in Washington for purely political reasons. This year the NOAA administration indicated the only politically acceptable management measure is a minimum size limit. But after studying that alternative, the South Atlantic Council, lead council in swordfish management, determined that a minimum size would have negligible conservation benefits, given the non-selectivity of longline gear and the high mortality of hooked fish. Unwilling to endorse an ineffective measure simply because it would gain approval, the Council acted with the best interests of the resource in mind and again recommended approval of the VSC.

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Product Review

GOTT COOLERS

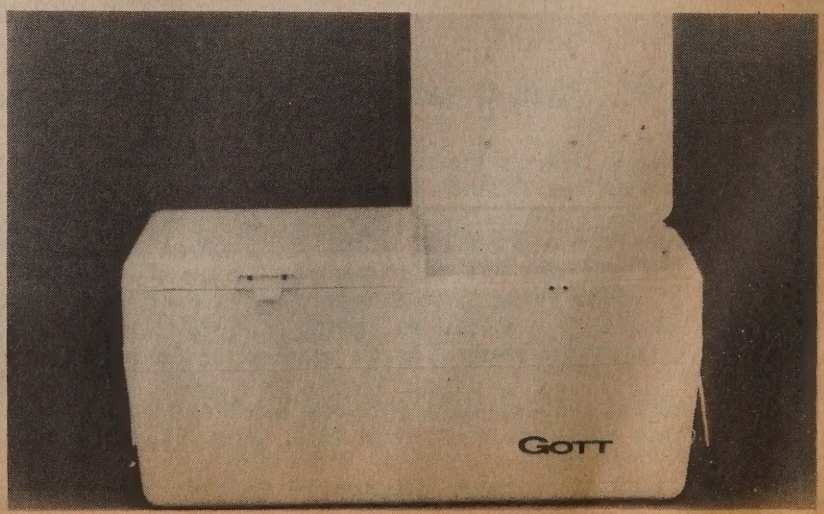
by John Raguso

Like the proverbial new kid on the block, the Gott Company made a big splash a few years back when it introduced its cavernous 172 quart insulated cooler to the saltwater fishing fraternity. For 1987, Gott has added a new member to their elite lineup of 172 and 120 quart marine ice chests in the form of a 102 quart unit.

All three boxes feature the famous "Split-Lid" design that Gott pioneered with its original entry in this product category. The advantage of this dual lid construction is that you can access the interior contents either by flipping up one-half of the hinged top section or the entire piece. This system works on the simple scientific principle that a smaller opening will let out a smaller portion of cold air, so practically speaking, the Gott marine chests allow more cold air to stay inside the cooler where it does the best work in preserving your day's catch. An additional benefit of the Split-Lid is that it reduces the chance of warping that is more commonplace in the large competitive designs that incorporate a single one-piece lid.

From a size perspective, although the 172 quart Gott is the largest production type cooler on the market with the exception of the massive semi-custom 320 quart behemoth manufactured by SSI, its fellow family members cast only slightly smaller shadows. The dimensions of the big 172 are 44 inch long x 21 inches wide x 19¼ inches high; the mid-sized 120 specs are 38½ inches long x 18½ inches wide x 17¾ inches high; and the baby of the group measures in at 37¾ inches long x 17½ inches wide x 17 inches high. According to Gott Marketing Services Manager Bernard Denker, both the 102 and the 120 quart units are constructed using the "blow molded" technique, as opposed to vacuum forming or injection molding, since in their opinion this method produces a more durable, one-piece product that should best stand up to the ravages of rough seas and inclement weather. Because of its larger size and heavier fishbox weight capacity, the Gott 172 is "rotation molded," due to this technique's superior characteristics when additional strength is required over the long haul. All three Gott marine chests feature a heavy-duty double wall construction, with an insulating blanket of sprayed urethane foam that's approximately one full inch thick in the bottom and sides. Their refrigerator-qualtiy plastic liners resist stains and odors, and clean up easily with a brush and some soap and water.

From a practical perspective, the large 172 quart Gott is a prime candidate to accompany you on your offshore tuna trolling or chunking forays, as its deep interior should accommodate 300 lbs. of ice with minimum difficulties. When we plan an overnight canyon sortie, we usually take a pair of Gott 172s loaded with either ice cubes or block ice, in addition to a pair of roll-up type insulated fish bags. The larger members of the thunnus clan, specifically the bigeyes and



the Allisons go into the fish bags along with a good portion of the ice. The smaller, under 100 lb. class yellowfins, bluefins and albacore will fit in the 172, with the Gotts holding either a pair of 80 lb. tuna (minus the heads, of course) or four to five 50 lb. tuna whole. If you're an inshore or bay fisherman, the 102 quart Gott is hard to beat when you consider how much cooler you're buying for your dollars.

Other design enhancements that the Gott coolers feature are strong, slip-resistant textured handles that are unbelievably comfortable, especially when you're carrying a full load of fish. Their synthetic finish will not be adversely impacted by the sun or saltwater, and they attach to the cooler via sturdy polyethelene ropes threaded through an integral frame built into the unit's one-piece body. The hinges on these Gott coolers are designed for long life and ease of operation, and I've found that the front locking mechanism does not self-destruct after only one season of use, as is the case in some competitive models. The drain plugs on all Gott marine chests are threaded and made to fit a standard 5/8 inch garden hose, so flushing these ice chests or draining them with a hose overboard without making a mess on your decks should be a breeze.

The 102 quart Gott even comes with a unique "Iceolator" system, where special Refreeze bottles fit in three strategic dividers that are built-in to the internal plastic liner of the cooler, allowing you to divide your chest into separate compartments. Two Refreeze bottles also thread into the Split-Lid to completely surround your food, beverages, or catch-of-the-day with a frosty environment.

All three units come with food trays that will keep your sandwiches raised above the icy slurry from down under. Some post-purchase options for these Gott coolers include floor brackets that can be attached to your deck that will prevent the cooler from sliding around in rough seas; a plastic cutting board that fits inside of the 172; and standard or PFD seat cushions that attach to the lids of all three units.

Both the 102 and 120 quart Gotts come in your color choice of either marine white or cobalt blue. The 172 comes in white only. Considering the high quality of these coolers and their full six-year warranty, the price you can expect to pay at your local marine discount store or catalog dealer is very reasonable. The 102 should sell for under $100, the 120 quart for a tad over $100 and the big 172 for slightly under $200. As the Gott catalog states, "They take fishing seriously," and it's tough to find a better tool for the job of keeping your catch fresh for the table after a long day out on the briny.

* * *

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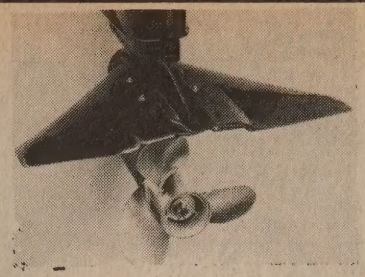

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BILLY Y. E. QUOGUE NY. 7/1/87
22' CENTER CONSOLE 170hp MERC I/O
"I JUST WANTED TO CALL AND TELL YOU; THANKS ALOT. THE DOEL-FIN WORKS GREAT. MY BOAT COMES ON PLANE AT 2500 RPM NOW, IT WAS 3200 BEFORE. THE BOW NEVER COMES UP, IT'S THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE."

BAYLINER
JOE A. HARRISON NY. 6/29/87
21'6' CUDDY CABIN 130hp. PENTA 275 O/D
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CHECKMATE
CHUCK S. HICKSVILLE NY. 6/9/87
18' 4 SEATER 175hp. MERC
"THE DOEL-FIN IMPROVED THE PERFORMANCE OF MY BOAT BEYOND ALL MY EXPECTATIONS! IF I NAIL THE THROTTLE AT LOW SPEED THE BOAT HAULS ASS WITHOUT THE BOW COMING UP. I CAN PULL OUT A SLOLOM SKIER USING A 24 DEGREE PROP, THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD DO IT WITHOUT THE DOEL-FIN."

GRADY WHITE
RANDY N. FORDS NJ. 7/12/87
21' CENTER CONSOLE 200hp JOHNSON
"MY BOW STAYS DOWN, I CAN SEE WHERE I'M GOING VERY EASILY NOW. THE BOAT PLANES FASTER AND STAYS ON PLANE DOWN TO ABOUT 2800 RPM, THAT IS ABOUT 1000 RPM LESS THAN BEFORE. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SAVING LOTS OF MONEY ON GAS. STABILITY WAS IMPROVED AND THE STEERING WAS BETTER AT LOW RPM'S. IT'S GREAT! THE DOEL-FIN IS DEFINITELY WORTH THE MONEY."

MAKO
TOM S. ROSLYN NY. 6/30/87
23' WALKAROUND 175hp EVENRUDE
"I'M VERY SATISFIED WITH THE DOEL-FIN. THE BOAT RIDES SMOOTHER AND IS MUCH BETTER IN HIGH SPEED TURNS. THE BOAT IS MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE TROLLING OFF SHORE AND DOES'NT POUND IN THE CHOP."

BRUCE H. NEWARK NJ 7/6/87
23' CENTER CONSOLE 235hp EVENRUDE
"THE BOAT PLANES OUT NICE AT 3000 R.P.M. IT WAS 4000 R.P.M BEFORE THE DOEL-FIN. I'D SAY IT WAS A BETTER INVESTMENT THAN TRIM TABS. FUEL ECONOMY IS MUCH BETTER. I'M VERY PLEASED."

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RENKEN
RICH L. E. NORTHPORT NY. 7/12/87
20' CUDDY CABIN 175hp MERC I/O
"THE BOAT CAME ON PLANE AT ABOUT 2500 RPM, NORMALLY ITS 34-3600 RPM. I WAS ABLE TO LEAVE THE RAMP AREA NOTICABLY FASTER WITH LESS OF A WAKE. THE DOEL-FIN IS WORTH THE MONEY, THE PRICE IS VERY FAIR."

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"THE DOEL-FIN IS WORTH THE MONEY. THE BOAT STAYS ON PLANE DOWN TO 2800 RPM, IT WAS 34-3500 RPM BEFORE. THE BOW STAYED DOWN WITH PEOPLE IN THE STERN AND IT FEELS VERY SOLID IN CHOP & CROSSING A WAKE. I CAN MOVE DOWN THE CANAL AT A HIGHER RPM AND LEAVE LESS WAKE. I'M RECOMMENDING THEM TO OTHER BOAT OWNERS."

SEA RAY
TOM H. DEAL NJ. 6/25/87
21' SEARAY 160hp. MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN IMPROVED GAS ECONOMY AND INCREASED STABILITY IN MY BOAT. IT DID EVERYTHING YOU CLAIMED IT WOULD, I RECOMMEND IT VERY HIGHLY."

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"I'M ABLE TO STAY ON PLANE AT 3500 RPM BEFORE THE DOEL-FIN WAS INSTALLED I HAD TO RUN AT 4200 RPM. IT CERTAINLY SEEMS TO WORK VERY WELL."

STARCRAFT
BOB J. NORWALK CT. 6/23/87
16' ALUMINUM 85hp. EVENRUDE
"I CAN SEE OVER THE BOW NOW, I'M VERY HAPPY WITH THE DOEL-FIN. I HAVE MOVED THE SEAT BACK WHERE I'M MORE COMFORTABLE, IT HAS EXCEEDED MY EXPECTATIONS."

STEIGER CRAFT
LARRY L. MANHASSET NY. 6/29/87
25' CENTER CONSOLE 200 MERC
"I'M VERY HAPPY WITH THE DOEL-FIN. IT KEEPS THE BOW DOWN, CAUSING THE V BOW TO ENTER THE SWELL FIRST AND ELIMINATE POUNDING."

THOMPSON
WALTER N. BRIDGEWATER NJ. 7/6/87
20' FISHERMAN 165hp MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN WORKS GREAT. THE BOAT NOW HAS A VERY COMFORTABLE RIDE, THERE IS NO POUNDING WHEN GOING OVER WAKES. IT WAS WORTH EVERY PENNY!"

TIARA
JOHN B. GREENWICH CT. 7/2/87
26' PURSUIT 260hp. O.M.C DRIVE
"I AM VERY PLEASED, THE DOEL-FIN KEEPS THE BOW DOWN. I DON'T HAVE TO TOUCH THE TRIM, IT IS THE BEST INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE IN A BOAT."

TROJAN
LARRY B. BROODKLYN NY. 7/13/87
25' SEA RAIDER 188hp MERC I/O
"THE BOAT PLANES MUCH FASTER, I'M VERY PLEASED WITH THE DOEL-FIN. I FEEL THEY ARE WORTH THE MONEY. I DON'T USE TRIM TABS ANYMORE."

WELLCRAFT
GENE P. BRENTWOOD NY. 6/23/87
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"I PICKED UP ABOUT 7 MPH. AT 3150 RPM. THE BOAT PLANES OFF FASTER AND BASICLY RIDES BETTER. I THINK THE DOEL-FIN WORKS GREAT I RECOMMEND IT TO ANY POWER BOAT OWNER."

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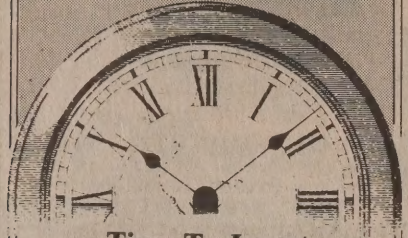

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Captain's Table

SHARK RECIPES

by Capt. Bud White

Stewed Shark

1 to 1½ lbs. shark fillets, cut into bite size pieces
1 - 10½ oz. can minced clams
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 - 28 oz. can whole tomatoes
1/4 cup dry white wine
1 tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 large onion, finely chopped
1 green pepper, sliced
1 tbsp parsley flakes
1/2 tsp basil leaves
1 - 16 oz. can tomato sauce

In large saucepan, saute onions, garlic and green pepper until tender. Chop tomatoes and add to saucepan with liquid. Add wine, parsley, salt, pepper and basil leaves. Bring to a boil, then simmer for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add shark pieces and simmer for 10 minutes. Add clams with liquid and cook for 5 more minutes. Serve hot.

Shark Salad

1 lb. shark meat, poached, drained and crumbled
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped celery
1 cup mayonnaise
1 tbsp lemon juice
1/8 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper

In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients except shark meat; mix well. Cover; refrigerate for 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes. Mix in shark meat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 8 hours. Freshen with mayonnaise, if needed, and correct for seasonings.

Cider Shark

1½ lbs. shark fillets
1/2 cup apple cider
1/2 cup water
4 tbsp butter
3 tbsp flour
1/2 cup heavy cream
2 tbsp parsley flakes

Put cider and water in skillet and bring to a slow boil. Place fillets in skillet and poach until done; about 10 to 12 minutes, depending on thickness of fillets. Remove fillets to casserole dish and keep warm. In a saucepan, melt butter, stir in flour and mix well. Gradually add the poaching liquid (1/2 cup) and stir until smooth and slightly thickened. Slowly add the cream. Add parsley flakes. Cook until hot, stirring constantly. Pour hot sauce over fillets. Put under broiler until sauce is lightly browned.

Pilgrim's Shark

1½ to 2 lbs. shark fillets
2 tbsp butter
1 cup milk
2 tbsp sherry
grated cheese, mix of Swiss and cheddar
2 tbsp flour
1 egg yolk
salt and pepper to taste
tomato slices, as needed to cover

Poach fillets until just barely cooked, then place in a buttered baking dish. Melt butter in saucepan; stir in flour. Mix together the milk egg yolk and sherry; stir into butter mix. Cook, stirring constantly, until sauce is thickened. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Pour sauce over fillets and top with tomato slices. Sprinkle grated cheese on tomato. Bake at 350 degrees until tomato slices are hot and cheese is melted, approximately 12 to 15 minutes.

Shark Stacy

1 lb. shark fillets, poached and crumbled
2 cups cooked rice
1/2 cup chopped onions
1 - 10½ oz. can condensed cream of mushroom soup
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1¼ cups shredded cheddar cheese
1/4 cup milk
salt and pepper to taste
1 tbsp parsley flakes

Combine all ingredients except 1/2 cup cheddar cheese; mix well. Spoon this mixture into buttered baking dish; sprinkle with shredded cheddar cheese. Bake at 350 degree for 20 to 25 minutes.

Winson Shark

1 lb. poached shark fillets, broken into small pieces
4 hard cooked eggs, finely chopped
1 - 10½ oz. can condensed cream of shrimp soup
1 tbsp butter
1/2 cup cream
1/4 tsp salt
1/4 tsp paprika
1 tbsp flour
1 tbsp lemon juice
1/8 tsp pepper
1 cup fresh bread crumbs
fresh buttered bread crumbs, as needed

Melt butter in saucepan and blend in flour. Add soup gradually and mix well. Stirring constantly, add cream, paprika, lemon juice, salt and pepper, cook until hot. Remove from heat; stir in crumbs, shark and chopped eggs.

Spoon this mixture into baking dish or individual casseroles; top with buttered bread crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes or until lightly browned on top.

Mehner's Shark and Mushroom Spaghetti

1 lb. shark fillets, cut into 1½ inch pieces
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 clove garlic, minced
1 medium onion, chopped
1/2 mushrooms, sliced
3 cups tomato sauce
1/4 tsp oregano
1/4 tsp basil
salt to taste
hot cooked spaghetti, as needed
grated Parmesan cheese, as needed

In a saucepan, heat oil and saute' onions, garlic and mushrooms for 5 minutes. Add shark pieces, tomato sauce, oregano and basil; simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add salt, if needed. Ladle shark mixture over spaghetti and sprinkle Parmesan cheese on top.

Orion's Shark

1 to 1½ lbs. shark meat, cut in serving size pieces
3 tbsp butter
3 tbsp flour
1 - 10½ oz. can condensed cream of mushroom soup
1/4 cup milk
1/2 tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper
dash of hot sauce
dash of garlic powder
1½ tbsp parsley flakes
Buttered bread crumbs, as needed
Paprika, for garnish

Put half of shark in buttered casserole. In saucepan, melt butter, add flour and stir until smooth. Add soup and milk; cook, stirring constantly until hot. Add salt, pepper and parsley flakes. Spread half of soup mixture over fish in casserole. Spoon remaining soup on top of fillets. Top with buttered bread crumbs; sprinkle with paprika. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes or until fish is just done.

Lionel's Shark

1½ to 2 lbs. shark fillets
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 tsp salt
2-3 cloves garlic, minced
4 tbsp vegetable oil
4 tbsp butter
1/3 cup yellow cornmeal
1/3 cup flour

Combine lemon juice, salt and garlic in a shallow baking dish. Cut fillets into service size pieces and add to garlic mixture, coating well on both sides. Cover dish and refrigerate for 30 minutes, turning at least once. In a bowl, mix together the flour and cornmeal. Remove shark pieces from marinade and coat with cornmeal mix. In a skillet, melt butter and add oil; heat until hot but not smoking. Sauce shark pieces until lightly browned on both sides.

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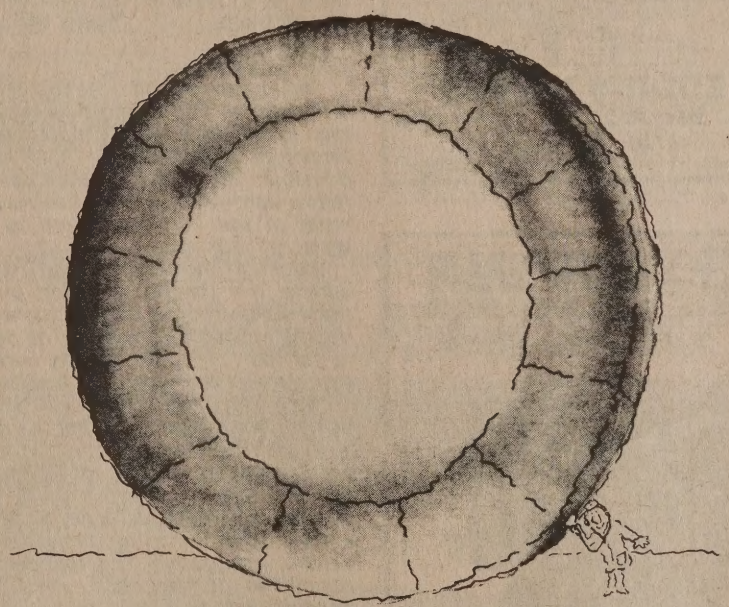

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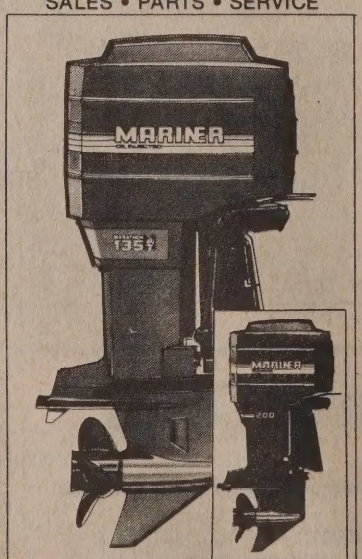

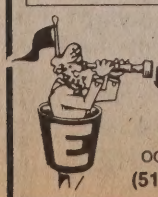

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The Tackle Doctor

by Ken Freel

Dear Doc,

I am 13-years-old and a wreck fishing fanatic. I go out on party boats about every two weeks for blackfish and sea bass. When I catch small fish I'm always willing to throw them back and let them grow. People on these head boats say not to throw them back because they will just die anyway.

The cause of this they say is from their swim bladder expanding from being pulled up from the depths so fast. Although many articles in The Fisherman suggest throwing small fish back, it seems that this would be impractical if the fish are just going to die anyway. Please help me out with this problem. *Walter Walczak.*

Dear Walter,

This is a very good question in light of today's efforts by most real sportsmen to conserve our fish resources by throwing back smaller fish when possible. There is a general rule to follow here which should ensure that most of the fish you return to the water will survive.

Blackfish and sea bass can usually survive the trauma of being pulled from the bottom as long as the water depths are 100 feet or less. The depth is not the only factor in play here as the rate that you reel the fish up to the surface also determines whether it will survive or not. Most fish have an air or gas bladder which acts a flotation organ that enables the fish to remain stable: neither sinking nor floating at the particular depth. When a fish is pulled from these deeper waters, the gas in the bladder expands and the fish gets a case of "the bends" just as divers who ascend from deep waters too fast can.

You can help ensure a fish's survival by reeling in a little slower and by checking its condition once it is brought on board. If the eyes are bulging and the air bladder is almost at the bursting point and sticking out of the mouth, then the fish probably won't survive if thrown back in. However, if the fish is still fairly lively and its eyes look good, then you do have the option of throwing it back. You can prick the air bladder if it is sticking out of the mouth with the tip of your hook. This will release the gas and the bladder may retact back into the mouth. A pricked air bladder will heal in most of the fish released.

When you get to waters exceeding 100 feet, then you really should take a close look at the fish. Again, if the fish looks in good shape, then it will probably survive. Many sea bass, blackfish, whiting and ling have been taken from these depths and would survive if thrown back in. A slower retrieve can often do the trick. So the next time you are out there fishing and you hook into and catch a small fish, do not hesitate to give it a chance to grow bigger. Some of the ones that you throw back will die, but many of them will not.

One thing is for sure: once you throw an undersized fish into the bucket, its luck has certainly run out and its chances of survival are zilch. You'll get some dirty looks, but it is not a bad idea to throw a few back if they still look relatively lively once over the rail. Thank you for asking an important question.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I enjoy saltwater fishing on party boats and especially I enjoy blackfishing very much. Recently, I noticed that regulars on many party boats use custom made rods of about 8 feet long. They look stout enough, even though they are longer than most boat rods, to catch big blackfish. They also look sensitive enough to feel very light nibbling.

In order for me to have the same look and action, I guess I have to purchase a custom rod. But would there be any factory which produces similar type saltwater rods of 8 feet length with wooden or cork grips and a heavy action with a sensitive tip? These longer rods are convenient when boat is crowded with anglers and the strong backbone is needed for these bottom fish. *Tae Lee.*

Dear Tae,

There is nothing better than fishing with a custom rod which was made to the exact specifications that you wanted. Therefore, if you know of a reputable rod builder, then I would not hesitate to see what he could do for you.

However, there are plenty of fine quality rods on the market that will certainly provide you with the action you want. Penn Reels has introduced the new Slammer Series which includes the SLC-2661 AX medium action rod. This model is 6½ feet in length and is ideal for all types of bottom fishing.

The Berkley Company has the Lightning Rod series which includes the medium action trigger reel seat, rod number LR-50 in a 7 foot length. This rod has a cork hand grip and reel

seat area plus is sensitive in the tip and stout in the stem.

Fenwick, another long time manufacturer of quality rods, has the Hotsticks Series of rods. Here you might want to check out the Hotstick PR 1870C which is a medium action 7 foot rod rated for 15 to 40 pound test line.

Daiwa Company has some specialty saltwater rods in their Sealine BG series. The jigging type model BG524MH (medium to heavy action) is worth a look. As you can see by now there are plenty of quality products to choose from. Shimano, Shakespeare and a host of others all have a rod or two that just may be the one you're looking for. Give them all a close look and remember you've always got the custom rod builder to make the rod of your dreams if all else falls short. Good luck.

* * *

Dear Doc,

It would appear that after some 20 plus years of saltwater fishing that I do have something substantial to show for the effort: a pile of worn out rods. Most of these rods need minor repairs, such as guide replacements and stabilization of reel seats, or grip refurbishing. Do you know of any book published on the subject or will a standard book on rod building suffice? Structurally, all the rod blanks are sound, but I'm wondering if the refinishing process will weaken the fiberglass? Thanks for your help.

Ian C. Smith.

Dear Ian,

It seems to me that the major problem with these rods is that the guides need replacement due to long years of fishing service. If this is the case, then all you will need to do is slice the threading off with a utility blade and lightly sand any dirt or other residue off.

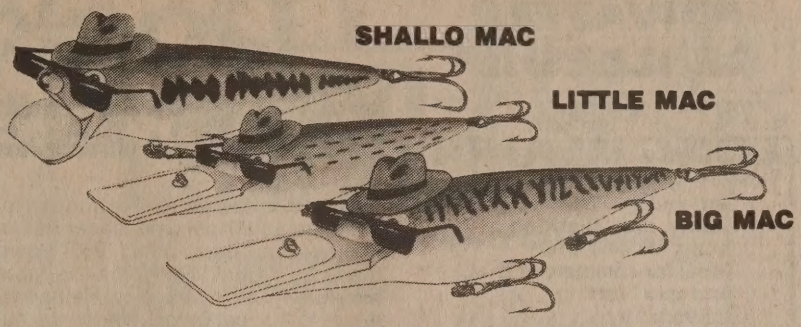
If you are going to use sandpaper be sure to use the type known as wet/dry sandpaper which is available at any hardware store.

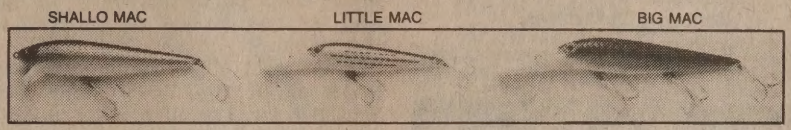
As far as the reel seats go, your best bet is to remove the lower grip and remove the reel seat. Now clean the exposed lower grip and remove the reel seat. You can then reglue and place the reel seat back into position.

You should be able to find a good rod building book in just about any major book store you walk into and they are a great help. The Fisherman Library has a book by Dale Clemens in stock called ***Advanced Custom Rod Building*** *that would be worth reading. This book costs $21.95 plus $1.50 for postage. The Fisherman Library address is P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, NY 11963.*

One final thing to remember is that the only way that you could ruin or weaken your rod blanks would be to use rough sandpaper or a harsh paint remover. Rough sandpaper would dig deep grooves and paint remover could actually dissolve the resins that hold the fiberglass blanks together.

The "Blues" Brothers





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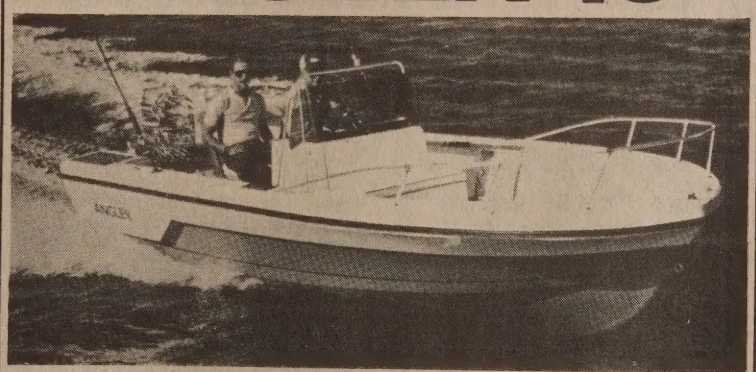

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Dock Lines

by Eric Burnley

I have received more information on gasoline additives. One reader recommends a product called BHT-Power made by Vitamin Research Products, Mountain View, California. He has added it to his fuel before winter storage and the boat performed perfectly in the spring.

There was an article in our local paper about the effect no-lead fuel will have on farm machinery. According to their information, the lead remaining in gasoline this year is sufficient to keep farm machinery operating, but when we lose all the lead content next year they are going to be in big trouble. Since tractors and combines run under continual heavy loads as boats do, perhaps those of us with older four-cycle engines are safe until next year.

Certain types of operation will also add to your low-lead problems. If you operate at or near the maximum RPM for your engine the low lead, low octane fuel is more likey to give you trouble. Most two cycle outboards are run at these speeds and I have seen some four cycle inboards and I/Os that are run close to the red line. If this is the way you run your engine you should be looking into additives that will increase the octane rating and protect the valves.

I am running my boat with a 1977 six cylinder Chevy block and a MerCruiser outdrive. I never operate above 3,000 RPM and spend most of my running time between 2,500 and 2,900. I always accelerate slowly until I am on plane and drop off the same way. This is just common sense operation and I drive my car in the same fashion. There were times during my misspent youth when jackrabbit starts and high speed runs were considered great sport, but then I started paying my own bills and moderation began to set in.

As we have said so many times in the past, please check with the company that manufactures your motor and get their recommendation as to the fuel or additive requirements. The problem of old motors and no-lead fuel will not go away and we will do our best to keep you current with any new products or developments.

* * *

Dear Eric,

I am interested in hearing your opinion on the "Eska" 7.5 and 9.9 horsepower outboard motors.

The motor would be used with a 14 foot MFG Tri-hull, on freshwater lakes and saltwater bays. I would also use it during the duck season.

In doing my research on this product, I have been able to determine that it is the same motor that Sears Roebuck Company sells as their "Gamefisher" line.

I have questioned two dealers that carry this line with one telling me that because of the weather conditions during duck season I may be wise to stay with a well known otuboard motor line, but the other dealer told me that the Eska motor is very reliable. I was also able to speak with the manufacturer's representative and wss told that the motor is very good for its price (the motor sells for as much as $400 less than other brands) and that parts would not be any problem.

The end result is that I have not been able to secure any consumer product comparisons and I would like your opinion. *Jeffrey J. Orsoe.*

Dear Jeffrey,

The Eska outboards have been

around for a very long time and have a well deserved reputation for reliable service. I have never owned one of these motors, but I do know several boaters who run them and they are all quite satisfied.

I do have some concern about using a 9.9 horsepower motor on a 14 foot MFG Tri-hull. This seems to be a bit underpowered and while it may not be a problem in freshwater lakes, it could cause trouble in saltwater where winds and currents can create more force on the boat than the motor can overcome.

The MFG Tri-hull boats I have seen appear to be quite heavy and could easily accommodate a 35 or larger horsepower motor. I suggest talking this situation over with an outboard motor dealer in your area to determine what size motor you should use. If the boat has a capacity plate, it will tell you the maximum horsepower the hull can accommodate and this should give you some idea of the size motor to use. You don't need the maximum size, but anything less than 50 percent of maximum may be too small.

* * *

Dear Eric,

I am writing about the press release you had in The Fisherman January 1st-9th edition. It was for a product called Dry Walk. This is a platform on your boat trailer that allows you to walk down the side when launching or recovering the boat. I have written to them three times and never heard from them. Could it be they are out of business or is this a wrong address? I would appreciate hearing from you.

Arthur H. Cole.

Dear Arthur,

I called Directory Assistance in Minneapolis and they have nothing listed under Dry Walk or any other business at that address. This may be why you have not received a reply to your letters.

In the event you would still like to put a walkway on your trailer, I have a few suggestions.

I have an EZ Loader trailer for my 20 foot Bertram and the previous owner installed a walkway all the way down one side. It is simply a 12 inch wide, one inch thick board cut to fit and bolted to the trailer through some holes that were already there.

To make a similar device for the tongue of the trailer you could use a 10 or 12 inch wide, one inch thick board cut to fit and held on with U bolts if there are no mounting holes in the frame. To keep the walkway as safe as possible you can cover it with non-skid tape available at most marine supply stores.

The walkway will make launch and recover operations much safer. I have always marveled at the tightrope walker's balance displayed by some boat owners as they scramble about on their trailers, but I am not blessed with such talent and need all the help I can get.

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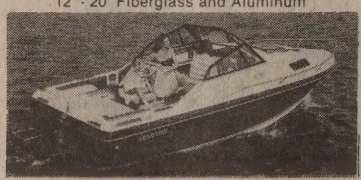

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CONCERN OVER STRIPER STUDY

by Fred Golofaro

There has been a lot of concern expressed recently over an upcoming State and Federally funded striped bass survey to be carried out on east end beaches by a local haul seining crew. Much of the concern is centered around the potentially devastating effects of this much maligned method of harvest.

Many surf fishermen, who have witnessed firsthand the sight of unwanted blues littering the beaches, see red at the mere mention of haul seining. Their immediate reaction to the announcement of this project was that it was meant to be no more than a way to help subsidize haul seine crews hurt by this year's total ban on the commercial harvest of striped bass.

It is also a well established fact that the abilty to return fish to the sea in a healthy state is severely compromised by the usual operating procedures of this net fishery. Many anglers feel that the potential exists for a large scale slaughter of bass due to the large numbers of stripers in evidence this season, a direct result of the coastwide removal of stripers from the marketplace and severely restricted bag limits placed on recreational anglers.

To try to make a little more sense out of what this project was all about and also to allay my own fears of the potential waste that could result from this project, I spoke with both Gordon Colvin, DEC's Director of Marine Resources and Byron Young, a marine resources specialist for DEC who has been heading striped bass research for the department for over fifteen years. Byron is acting as the project coordinator.

Gordon Colvin described the study as being very much like the yearly index surveys conducted on the Hudson River striper stock, only on a much larger scale. Although most of the talk and press being generated by the study revolves around PCB sampling, it is only a small part of what biologists hope to learn from the sampling.

According to Byron Young, data from this survey will help state and federal scientists develop an adult

Each set of the net will be closely supervised by DEC personnel. ***John Fritz photo.***

stock index which will reveal what size fish and age groups are available to the fishery in a given year. They will be able to develop a catch curve analysis from this and future surveys which will enable them to track individual year classes and the impact of a specific year class on the fishery. This sampling will also be used to conduct studies on striped bass mortality, an area sorely lacking in hard data. In short, everyone stands to benefit by the knowledge gained from these studies.

The seining is scheduled to begin on August 15th, providing the contract between the state and Billy Haven's haul seine crew is finalized in time. Contrary to published reports elsewhere, there has been no seining conducted in conjunction with this program.

As to charges of the study simply being a "payback" to the netters, the fact of the matter is that DEC was actually engaged in discussions to purchase their own haul seine equipment. The final decision to contract the work out was made on a biological basis. The feeling was that the consistency of expertise provided by veteran haul seiners would maintain the accuracy of the data.

Many of my own concerns relating to the actual seining process were considerably diminished as a result of my conversations with Colvin and Young. Both men revealed that their worst nightmares concern large numbers of dead stripers. Byron acknowledged the potential for a big kill but added that there will be a lot of options available should things get out of control. Both Byron and Gordon have always expressed a very real concern for the resource and that same dedication and concern is being carried over to this project.

The actual seining process will be conducted on a scientific basis at predetermined, and randomly selected sites or "stations." There will be no "hunting" for concentrations of fish such as would be the case in a normal haul seining operation. Also, every set will be supervised by at least two DEC personnel, one of whom will be acting in the capacity of crew chief. Judgments will be made at the scene to minimize waste and mortality.

Byron made it clear that he had the option of modifying the project once it is under way if the numbers become too big. Although the survey is scheduled to run into December, the state maintains the option of stopping the project at any time. The biologist made it very clear that the last thing the department wants is large numbers of dead stripers left in the wake of this survey.

As mentioned earlier, one aspect of the survey is to collect fish for PCB testing. This, of course, raises the question of what happens if these fish are found to have "safe" levels of PCBs?

The only meaningful management guidelines currently in effect is the one fish bag limit affecting recreational anglers and to some degree, the 33 inch minimum size limit. I say to some degree because if a commercial net fishery is permitted to operate, the mortality on fish under the size limit would still be considerable. The only meaningful management affecting the commercial striper harvest comes under the guise of the current PCB ban.

The impact of a commercial striper fishery, both rod and reel and netting, has been made ever so clear as a result of the current striper ban. The drastically reduced harvest effort has resulted in a deceptive abundance of bass along much of the striper coast. Let's hope that as future management guidelines are drafted, the evidence will not be misconstrued. The answer to lifting the burden from the striper lies in the marketplace.

If future regulations permit a commercial fishery for striped bass here on Long Island, or anywhere on our coast, then the resultant effects of that fishery on striped bass mortality should be a major concern. Size limits serve no usefulness if undersized fish are returned dead to the water and seasonal closures mean little unless they are in place when a significant portion of the harvest normally takes place. Cropping a couple of weeks off at the start of the season and the tail end of the season does little to lighten the striper's burden.

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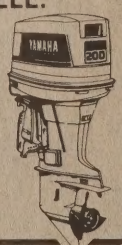

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THE SLAMMERS OF SHREWSBURY

by Russ Wilson

Bob Beck hung onto the trolling rod with all the strength he could muster as an unseen foe attempted to yank it from his grasp. Beads of perspiration gathered on Beck's forehead and his knuckles turned white as he applied all the pressure the tackle could take.

Slowly but surely, line began to pile up on the reel spool and the fish grudgingly gave way to the unrelenting pull of the line. Almost as if in ultra slow motion, one, two, three and finally four big slammer blues leapt clear of the surface as they tried to rid themselves of the steel that tugged at their jaw.

"A four bagger, did you see that. I bet every one is over 15 pounds!" shouted Beck as he tried to regain his footing at the stern of the Marauder.

"I knew I had something big and tough, but didn't expect to see four giant blues hanging onto the rig," he said as he deftly brought the still fighting slammers within reach of the gaff.

We weren't more than two dozen yards from the Pilot out of Brooklyn and within easy hailing distance of several New Jersey party packets that were anchored over the rocky bottom terrain as passengers bounced baits for sea bass, blackfish, scup and ling.

There is some wonderful bluefishing to be found just a little way to the south of Sandy Hook, and a lot of New York party boaters, charter skippers and just plain savvy fishermen, are cashing in on the fun without letting others know that it exists.

This is no secret spot that is tucked away in some far off section of Raritan Bay or out near Montauk. The Shrewsbury Rocks are clearly marked on most any coastal chart, are within range of boaters fishing out of many New York basins and can usually be counted on to produce fish when many other areas along the south shore are cold as ice.

For many years the fleet of Mako boats fishing from Brooklyn and other New York ports had this area virtually to themselves. When the striped bass fishery at Sandy Hook and throughout the bay began to taper off, the Mako crowd did not hesitate to home in on the Rocks and the excellent bluefishing that is available throughout summer, fall and into the early winter

The fishing on Shrewsbury will continue well into the fall.

season.

There are, of course, plenty of New Jersey captains who focus on the Shrewsbury Rocks and there has always been a big fleet of bottom fishing boats from both sides of the bay that slip down to the Rocks when closer to home spots fail to produce fish.

The private boat owner was, however, usually racing around the bay or drifting the Rockaway area and too busy to know what was happening elsewhere.

At any rate, the cat is out of the bag. If you want to get in on some outstanding bluefishing and are willing to travel a little distance to find it, you'll have the finest kind of bluefishing at the Shrewsbury Rocks where the slammers come big and mean!

I've caught blues weighing well in excess of 20 pounds when trolling the Rocks and have had more 12 to 18 pounders on bait, top water plugs or bucktails, than I care to recollect. At times, especially during late summer and fall, it is possible to catch these big choppers until your arms feel as if you've gone 10 rounds with "Iron Mike" Tyson. Long after you've given up, thoroughly exhausted from battling fish that won't quit, you can still see big blues slashing into schools of bunker that do everything but fly as they try to escape those nasty tempered slammers.

Why haven't more fishermen discovered this phenomenal bluefish hotspot? I'd venture it is strictly a matter of geography. Most Metropolitan Area and Long Island fishermen are content to fish at their doorstep. If the fish are close, say around Norton's Point, off Jones or Fire Island Inlet, or along the Staten Island shore from Princess Bay up to Hoffman and Swinburne Islands, the locals rack up big scores. But, when blues vacate local waters, most of the regulars bemoan the fact that fish are scarce and are not willing to do a little exploring to find the kind of action that is available just another 20 or 30 minutes down the coast.

The Shrewsbury Rocks are located directly east of Sea Bright and stretch offshore for several miles. The primary area is marked inshore by a black can buoy and offshore by a high A type buoy. Both are easily visible as you turn the corner at Sandy Hook or when coming across the bay via the Tin Can Grounds.

Anglers who depart the New York shore from Rockaway Inlet will head across the bay on a line toward the Romer Shoals, and will then run directly along the Sandy Hook shore until reaching the Rocks. Loran C owners can, of course, run a more direct course when heading to the rocks.

The Loran C TDs at the Gong Grounds are 26975 x 43748 and for the Shrewsbury Rocks use 26950 x 43635. The latter set of TD numbers will put you onto the Rocks.

Some mornings the fish will be in tight to the beach and slamming into tightly packed schools of bunker, rainfish, anchovies or other species of small baitfish. At other times, you may not find the big blues until you are a mile or more off the beach.

Diamond jigs are especially effective when the blues are settled in the mid-depth range.

There is a short cut to success that has helped us load the fish box on more than one occasion. Scan the horizon, all the while keeping a watchful eye on the movements of gulls. Sea gulls are the "tattletales" of the sea and will usually reveal the presence of big blues, weakfish or striped bass that are in a killing frenzy.

Find a bunch of gulls that are dipping and diving into the water and you'll generally have your hands full of mean-mouthed bluefish that are ready to kill, cripple or maim anything that moves.

This is the time to have your spinning or popping tackle rigged and ready. A popping plug, sub-surface swimmer or bucktail will probably be eaten the second it touches water.

I like to carry a 6½ foot popping type rod that is rated to handle lines of 8 to 12 pound test and lures in the 1/2 to 1½ ounce range. For catching big blues a rod that meets these requirements is about as close to perfect as you are likely to find. Match the rod with a mid-size reel and 8, 10 or 12 pound test monofilament line and you're in business.

Blues are not too particular about what they eat. I've had good results when casting any of the slender swimming plugs. The Bomber is a hot number, Redfins have been around for a number of years and will usually put fish in the cooler. Rebels, Hellcats, Bagley and Rapala are also very effective for casting to big blues.

Occasionally, the blues will inhabit mid depth waters and will not venture to the surface to eat. That's when you'll need those A17, A27 or A47 diamond jigs. Pick whatever size that fits the occasion and work it fast. You can drop the jig to bottom and crank it to the surface at flank speed; jig it as you would when plumbing the offshore depths or just cast it out and crank it back at mid depth.

Diamond jig experts follow two different routes. Some prefer using a jig that has a short surgical tube tail as

(Continued on next page.)

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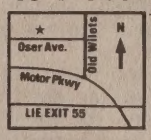

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an added fish attractor and others find it advantageous to use the jig plain. I am like a politician in this respect, and will generally have some of each style in the tackle box. If I note that one model is outcatching the other, I'll switch to whichever lure is hot.

Hopkins, Ultimus or any of the metal plated lures that are designed to imitate smaller fish can be equally effective for catching Shrewsbury Rocks' slammers. Again, just use the cast and retrieve technique and you should get plenty of response from any big slammer that spots your offering.

I do not think there is a better fish catcher lure than the leadhead bucktail. These do-nothing hunks of lead and hair have taken fish from waters throughout the world and will continue to do so in the future. You just cannot go wrong with a bucktail when seeking predatory fish such as big slammer blues, striped bass or weakfish and anyone who does not have some tucked away in his or her tackle box is making a big mistake.

Most any color will catch. I've found white or yellow are the two most productive colors, but will not hesitate to tie on a black, green, blue or purple leadhead if that is all that is available. Doesn't seem to matter to the choppers, for I've caught fish on most every color of the rainbow and some that didn't even have paint covering the lead.

If the slammers are playing hard to get, and believe it or not, they do on occasion, try a strip of pork rind on the leadhead. Often this will stir the fish into striking because it presents a larger silhouette for them to home in on.

I look upon trolling as strictly a last resort technique and will break out the wire line outfits only when all other methods fail to produce. Most trolling will occur when boat traffic is heavy or when the blues are feeding predominantly upon sand eels beneath the surface.

There is no doubt that surgical tube rigs are the route to follow. Any quality 2, 4 or 6 arm rig will catch fish if you use it correctly. The 2-arm rigs, commonly known as "coathangers" because they resemble the hangers that you get when having clothes cleaned, are probably the easiest to use. Four-arm rigs are slightly bulkier and have more resistance in the water, and the six-arm rigs are worse yet.

The 4-arm "umbrella" is a good middle of the road choice. It will allow you to present five lures in a variety of colors and can be handled without too much trouble. I like to break up the pattern and will normally use a combination of colors including red, green, burgundy, white, yellow and to a lesser degree, black. Once you hit on a winning combo, it pays to change the other tubes to match the color and size tube that is producing. Some days you'll find the biggest choppers are interested in eating small, 3 to 5 inch tubes and will totally

ignore anything larger. At other times, big slammers may jump all over a 6 or 8 inch tube and not flick a fin to grab a small tube. For this reason, most savvy bluefishermen will carry a variety of surgical tubes in mixed colors and sizes and will ajdust as existing conditions dictate.

To be a success at fishing the Shrewsbury Rocks, you will need a good chart recorder to show you the bottom structure. There are places where the bottom depth is no more than 12 to 15 feet and others where the rocks slope off to depths exceeding 40 feet. Without a chart recorder it is impossible to find the fish holding structure and unless you are over good fish holding habitat, your chances of catching are not as great.

A lot of Brooklyn charter and party boat skippers make the run to Shrewsbury Rocks to cash in on the excellent chumming opportunities that are available. You, too, can get in on the fun. Again, you'll need the chart recorder to locate a spot to anchor so your chum slick will stretch out over good bottom. Look for sharp dropoffs, breaks in the bottom configuration or places where wave action creates small patches of working water. This is where you'll find the blues waiting to pick up a tasty morsel.

Most knowledgeable bluefish chummers will bait with butterfish, bunker, smelt or slabs of mackerel. All will catch, but for my money nothing can top a chunk of fresh cut bunker that's oozing oil and blood. It drives blues wild!

Bunkers, or menhaden, are common throughout the Sandy Hook area and can be seen splashing on the surface. By using a weighted treble hook and jigging it vigorously through a school of bunker, you can snag enough fresh bunker to provide a batch of fresh chunk baits.

Try hooking the chunk one time by piercing the flesh near the top with a single 5/0 to 7/0 offset beak style hook that has been haywire twisted to a short trace of #7 tobacco stain single strand wire leader.

Hungry blues will generally smack the chunk without hesitation and will be hooked solidly. If you want to release the fish, just snip the wire close to the hook and in time it will rust away, leaving the blues none the worse from its brush with death.

It is possible also to drift and chunk. Some sharpies at catching Shrewsbury slammers will snag bunker, cut them into big chunks and drift the chunks across the structure to attract hungry blues. It is a fun way to catch slammers and will often outproduce the standard chumming techniques by a wide margin.

That is about it in a nutshell. If you're among the unfortunates who are missing out on this fantastic action, I suggest you remedy that situation this summer, I can guarantee you will not be disappointed with Shrewsbury's Slammers.

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HAIL TO THE NORTHERN KING

by Matt Ahern

Once a mainstay of Long Island's inshore fishery, northern kingfish are showing signs of making a comeback.

One balmy morning last May I spent a pleasant hour or so watching a handful of sinker bouncers casting from the bulkhead at Shinnecock Canal.

The squid and spearing fishermen had a fluke or two, but the worm dunkers were having a slow pick. Some of these die-hards had several good-sized flounder and those fishing close to the bulkhead, a blackfish or two. Nothing really much to brag about.

I was walking back to the car when I heard a good deal of commotion and saw one of the flounder fishermen struggling with an arched rod. Whatever was causing all the ruckus was no flounder.

I hurried back to watch the fun, but by the time I arrived, the fish had been landed and was beating a tattoo on the blacktop. Several curious fishermen had already gathered around, making comments to one another.

"What in hell is it?" someone inquired of no one in particular.

"Kingfish," replied the lucky angler. "And I'll bet it'll go two pounds. Boy! What a scrapper!"

This, as anyone who has caught kingfish knows, happens to be the perfect description.

There's no exaggeration in this statement. Few bottom fish in our local waters fight as well or as hard for their size as does the kingfish. Many fishermen have commented (with some sadness) that it's too bad kingfish don't reach the weight of stripers or blues. And it is; for if they did, I believe they'd be the most sought after fish in Long Island and New Jersey waters.

I caught my first kingfish many years ago while indulging in a bit of flounder fishing. Much time passed before I caught another. But I remembered that first king as something special. Even today, I can vividly recall the smashing strike and powerful resistance put up by that fish. No fish I had caught up until then had gotten the old adrelanline pumping the way that one did. Yes, sir. The king is quite a fish.

Many fishermen have yet to catch their first king and those who have enjoyed this rod bending pleasure usually catch them while fishing for other bottom fish, as did that Shinnecock Canal fisherman. Never too abundant around Long Island, the kingfish does, however, have a small group of anglers who make it a point to seek him out each summer.

The kingfish season is short; the best months being June, July and August—with the nod going to August. They are a fussy fish and you'll find the least bit of chill sends them packing. The arrival of Labor Day usually means the end of the season is near.

Because kingfish are extremely sensitive to their surroundings, oldtimers usually refer to them as "weather prophets." A falling barometer heralding the approach of a storm, quickly sends kingfish from the shallows to deeper water, not to return until the inclemency is over. This is one reason fishermen find kingfish frustrating.

It is quite possible to garner a goodly mess of kingfish from one locality and get zip in the exact same place the next day. And the reverse is also true. It is not uncommon for fishermen to catch kingfish in the most unlikely places. They are one fish we fellows can never be certain about. All of which adds a bit of spice to the day.

As an example: several summers ago I was porgy fishing near Peconic Bay's Robin's Island and suffering the pangs of a slow pick. Suddenly, kingfish began to take over. I caught them as fast as my squid-baited hooks hit bottom. Before they moved off, I had nailed 26, averaging about one pound apiiece. Whether they had been atracted by my skimmer chum, I don't know, for I had rarely caught kings in that area before. But that matters not, for I took advantage of my good fortune and had a ball.

And to put the finishing touch to this little story, I returned the following day, loaded for bear, figured the tide as best I coluld and—you guessed it: nary a one. But I did catch porgies. You go figure.

It isn't required that kingfishermen use a boat to succeed. Kingfish provide great fun for shore fishermen and surf casters. In fact, I believe more kings are caught in this manner than by those fishermen who depends on boats for their fun.

For the shore fisherman or surf caster, just about any sandy beach along the Long Island and New Jersey coastlines has its summertime quota of kingfish. And for the fishermen who like the quiet, sheltered areas, shorelines of bays, creeks, channels, and canals have their share, too.

I find, though, that the larger kings haunt the ocean beaches. It is not unusual to see a three pounder taken by a dyed-in-the-wool kingfish fan. There are records of six pounders taken along Long Island beaches, but I'v never seen one. Large kings are also caught in sheltered areas. But the average for these areas is usually about one pound.

Spinning tackle is ideal for kingfish. With it, the angler can allow the fish to pour on the steam—and pour on the steam it will. Make no mistake about that. Dependent upon fishing conditions, any light to medium spinning rod and matching reel filled with 8 to 10 pound test good quality mono work well. When fishing inside ocean inlets or deep water channels which require heavier than normal sinkers, it is best to use medium weight tackle.

When fishing ocean beaches, any surf stick (either spinning or conventional), plus a matching reel filled with 15 pound test mono will do the trick. This heavier stuff has the oomph to get the bait out where it will do the most good.

Ocean kingfish can be caught when casting from the end of rock jetties. Try the lee side of these jetties on an incoming tide when the depth reaches 10 feet or more. The incoming tide is important in such areas when seeking kingfish. The fish will then scour the shallows in search of food, allowing the fisherman a captive audience, so to speak.

When surf fishing for kingfish, be certain you use only pyramid sinkers. These sinkers are designed so that they quickly become anchored in the hard-packed sand bottom. Should you use a cylindrical sinker, it will be subject to wave action and undertow, which will cause it to roll about, which

in turn will give you poor control over the rig.

Rigging is simple enough as long as the fisherman remembers that kingfish are bottom feeders. However, I won't go so far as to say kings will not rise off bottom to feed. I know that seems a contradiction, but I've got to tell you "like it is."

I always believed kingfish were bottom feeders, as I say. But some summers ago I was snapper fishing in Shinnecock Canal and on this particular day I began receiving line-zipping strikes, but couldn't set the hook. I figured the action was coming from small weakfish, which at that time were quite common in the Canal. I figured, just as well, for to hook them meant a fish that would not recover when returned (young weakfish are extremely delicate when in the yearling stage). But something kept nagging me and I decided to see just what was giving me the ha-ha. I put on a smaller hook—and immediately began catching half-pound kingfish at least 10 feet off bottom. So much for making positive statements about fish and fishing, in general.

But the smart fisherman when seeking kingfish will rig so his bait is always on bottom to receive the best results. I know that I were to fish kings tomorrow, I'd forget about my chances of achieving success with unorthodox methods. As an experiment, yes; but not if I wanted fish in the bucket.

When fishing bays and other inland areas, I find it best to use a regular shanked Beak or Claw-type hook—and not to go larger than a #6. I'm a great believer in the Sproat hook for most bottom feeders, but not for kingfish. The choice is yours.

When surf fishing, though, it is best to use a 1/0 in any of the recommended styles. This should be snelled on a two foot piece of leader material (20 pound test). Surf feeding kings are easily caught on 1/0s. Should you nail a dogfish or skate, you'll find this hook much easier to remove. Place the leadered hook about three inches above your sinker.

When fishing sheltered areas, two hooks tied tandem style can be used with good result. Double-headers are not uncommon, and two desperate kingfish on one line are guaranteed to give any fisherman a tussle.

To tandem-tie, simply fold the snell of one hook at its middle and place it through the knotted loop of the second hook. This second hook is then put through the fold of the first hook, drawn up tight and secured with a common overhand knot. You can do this in seconds. And not only that, you'll know your two hooks are always on bottom.

Place these hooks two inches above a bank sinker or one or two ounces, weight depending upon tidal conditions, with or without the aid of a three-way swivel. If the day is windy and you must cast a fair distance, be sure to use the three-way swivel. This will help prevent line and rig tangling.

Bait is no great problem. For best results, I find the sandworm has no equal. There are times when bloodworm will work well and it isn't a bad idea to bring along a few. I have used squid, shrimp, soft, hard and skimmer clam on occasion, but nothing equals the squirmers. At times, I've had great luck with small, frozen spearing. I think it best, though, to forget the frozen stuff.

The difficulty with most thawed bait lies in the fact that it becomes soft rather quickly. This makes it difficult to cast. I'll tell you one thing: unless you know the frozen bait you intend using is fresh frozen—forget it! Kingfish are fussy; they require fresh bait—the fresher, the better. Use your tired bait for less finicky fish if you wish, but don't offer it to the king.

Boat fishermen often catch kings when chumming for other bottom fish. When fishing slows in kingfish territory, try a little chum. You can't lose. You'll find hard sand bottom produces most kingfish; few are caught on mud.

Kingfish are delicious and always bring premium prices on the commercial markets. Large kings, say two pounders, make tasty fillets. Um-m! Good!

Yes, sir. In my book these fish rate king high.

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SNAPPER A DOORMAT

by Dick Mermon

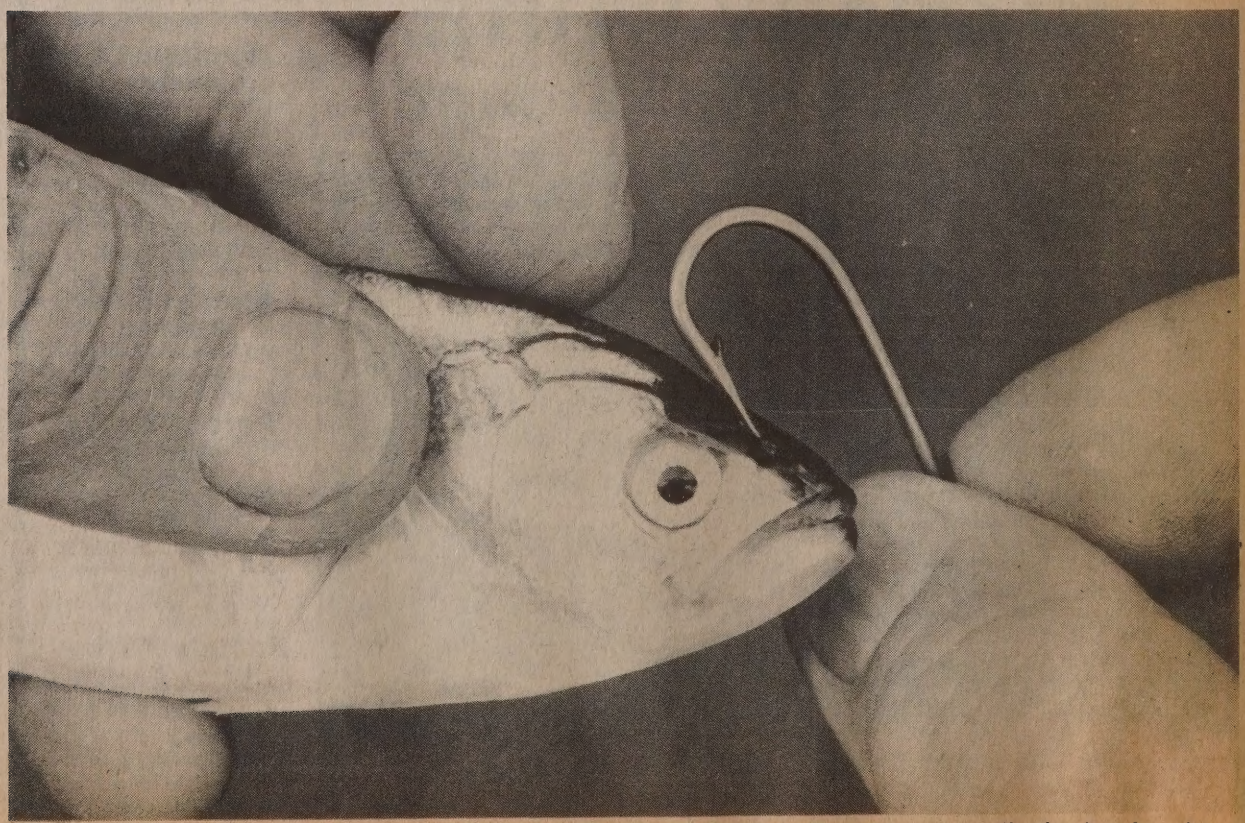
In the cycle of piscatorial life, the tiny are eaten by the small; the small by the medium; the medium are fed upon by the large and in turn, the extra large dine on the large. Hence, during this succession, the prey become predators and the predators themselves, are the quarry once again. And so it is with the application of baby bluefish, more commonly referred to as "snappers," for summer flounder. A predator themselves, they now become the prey.

Each year in the latter part of May, adult bluefish migrate into Long Island's south shore bays. Around early to mid-July, tiny bluefish appear, saturating the areas with their presence and voracious appetites. At this stage, they become the bay's predominant predators of fry, killiefish and spearing. By August, after gorging themselves for a month, these mini-blues attain a size of 5 or 5 inches in length, perfect to be used as bait. In midsummer, fluke become well established within the bays and not only forage upon killie fish, spearing and shrimp, but add baby snappers to their menu. The abundant snappers become number one on top of the food list for doormat fluke.

To catch sufficient snappers for bait in a short period of time, I employ the aid of a tiny chromed ice fishing lure called a "teardrop jig," in a number 8 or 10 size. A small killiefish, no larger than two inches in length is hooked through the mouth and allowed to swim freely below the water surface, but not out of sight. Three or four killies are then tossed into the area where the baited one is. The activity usually stimulates any snappers in the vicinity into a feeding frenzy and they begin chopping at everything that moves. Very often the mouths of these small bluefish are not large enough to devour a killie whole. Instead, they try to sever the bait in two, tail section first. Being undersized and so gluttonous, the little snappers sink their teeth well into the body, but are unable to cut it. At that moment, a quick flip of the rod tip and the snapper, still holding on to the killie, is out of the water. When an oversize juvenile snapper takes the bait and is able to attack it head first, the jig's hook catches it.

Baby snappers can be maintained alive within most any shaped container. It does not necessary require the tank to be round, as with the use of mossbunker, for these snappers are one marine species intelligent enough to swim out of corners. However, constant water changing is advised to replenish oxygen content that is essential to maintaining the baitfish.

There are two basic rigging methods when using snappers as bait, each depending upon location and time of year. Fluke are very much aware of line tension and weight drag after taking the bait. Therefore, a fish finder is one way to eliminate any telltale tension. Line from the reel and rod is passed through the tiny plastic hole and its end secured to a swivel. A three foot length of 20 pound test monofilament is fastened to the swivel and its opposite end receives a #1 or 1/0 size hook. The sinker itself is not placed directly onto the standard clip found on all fish finder rigs, but to a 6 or 8 inch length of monofilament, then onto the clip. This extension leader keeps the active bait slightly off the bottom, preventing snags and away from menacing crabs. Also, less vibrations are felt on a rod tip when the sinker is leadered then



A hook point is passed through the snapper's nostrils giving it freedom of movement and allowing it to breathe.

when not. A direct attached sinker also has the tendency to hang up on bottom quickly, along with the fish finder itself, whereas with the leader, the sinker bounces over the debris.

In placing a hook into a live snapper for its presentation, some anglers like to insert it into the bait's back, just behind the head and gills. They feel it offers the snapper more freedom, or the bait reacts more like an injured fish. Since the bluefish being used are small in size and the hook proportionately so, when place through the snapper's nostrils, it allows more swimming motion in the direction of the moving current. Furthermore, this hook placement permits the baby blue to breath freely and normally. Likewise, there are no vitals to injure as when hooked into the back.

When fluke strike a drifted live snapper, it is with a vengeance. They do not chop them in half. They merely grab hold, trying to kill it. Upon feel the tap of a pick-up or any tension, line is immediately free spooled for a slight distance. During the time the fluke either turns the bait around or folds it in half then proceeds to swallow the snapper. Should any resistance or weight be felt by the fish from sinker drag, or line tension, the little blue is expelled. There is no fixed time lapse as to when a hook is to be set after the pick-up is felt. This knowledge comes only from experience. Most often, it takes only a few seconds for a fluke to grab, turn and swallow the bait, but a large offering and a small fish could be troublesome.

During the summer period, when snappers are still in the infant stage, they find not only refuge, but forage in the tidal creeks of the back bays. Where the food is abundant, the fluke will follow. In these shallow areas of the bays it is best to employ another fish finder type rig where the weight replaces the plastic sleeve. The line this time, is passed through an egg, or barrel sinker then tied to a swivel as previously mentioned. From there on, everything stays the same. This style rig is easier to use in shallow water and produces some equally good results, especially during the warm weather.

Tides play a critical part in live-lining snappers for fluke. When the fluke are in the shallows or on the flats (mostly during the summer months), the favored tide is the last hour of the flood and first of ebb. As water temperatures begin to decline, the fish move off the shallows and seek the deeper holes of the bay and channels. At such times and locations, the basic feeding period has been the last hour of an ebbing tide and the first of flood.

Fluke fishing with juvenile bluefish can be highly rewarding, producing quality size fish. A 14 inch summer flounder will try to assault an 8 or 9 inch snapper, but the outcome of hooking it is slim. On the other hand, a doormat size fluke will never pass up his favorite summer prey.

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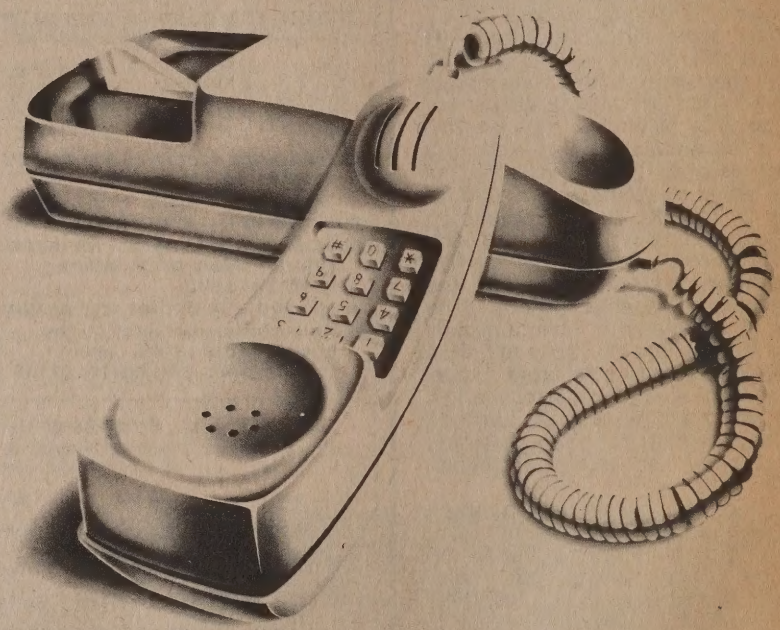

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COD OF SUMMER

by Gerald Hahn

In the late 1970s, I caught most of my summer codfish in Maine. I would pick up my friend Sal in Rhode Island and head for the party boats in such places as Boothbay Harbor and Kennebunkport. One thing that intrigued me about Maine's codfish was their attraction to a lure. You send a one pound diamond jig 150 to 250 feet to the bottom and you come up with a cod or a pollock or a cusk. Although most of the summer cod weighed less than 10 pounds (the cows are taken in spring and fall), they were plentiful.

Of all things, in fact, it was the abundance of cod that had brought me to Maine in the first place—an 8 hour drive from New York. For in the late 1970s, codfishing on Long Island was very poor.

But in recent years, cod have been making a comeback in New York. Restrictions on both foreign and domestic commercial fisheries have helped. One sign is the improved winter fishing in the New York Bight, which had come to resemble a dead sea. Another is the abundance of young cod, a good sign for the future. For me, however, it is the summer fishing at Coxes Ledge, a large bank located about 15 miles southeast of Block Island, to which I have returned. You see, although cod are considered cold weather fish, I am not fond of chopping ice to free my rod from the holder. Fishing for cod in finger-numbing weather is for heartier souls. I would rather catch cod in summer comfort at Coxes Ledge, where the only thing cold is the water 110 feet below.

Although most of the summer cod at Coxes Ledge, as in Maine, are small, fishing for them in warm water has a distinct advantage: few boats fish for them. For example, 15 years ago, there were at least three party boats from Montauk fishing the ledge daily: the Peconic Queen, the Viking and the Helcat. In addition, there were two boats from Rhode Island. Today, although the Rhode Island boats remain, the only party boat in Long Island fishing for summer cod at Coxes Ledge—or for that matter, anywhere in New York waters—is the Viking Star. With less fishing pressure on cod, individual catches have been growing.

Although codfishing at the ledge is performed almost exclusively with bait and the 20 fathom curve seems like a puddle compared to Maine's abyss, the fishing is not easy. The currents at the ledge are strong and cold water at the bottom combined with rises and depressions along its 10 mile expanse create upwellings. Thus, heavy tackle is required. Most people use a stout 8 foot conventional rod and reels ranging from the Penn Senator and Jigmaster to the Daiwa 50H spooled with 40 lb. test. Occasionally, you see an old-timer fishing with a sidewinder reel next to a novice with a spinning outfit. Sinkers range from 10 to 15 oz., yet most of the cod are pups. Taken off the bottom in 110 feet of water. with heavy rigs in a

(Continued on next page.)

Although most summer cod are small, a few large ones are caught as well.

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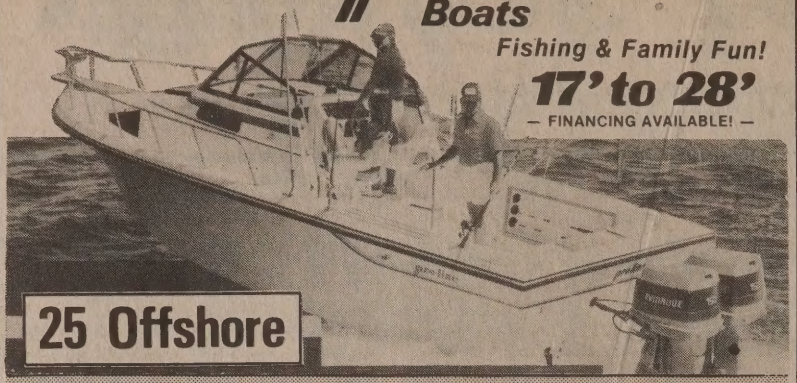
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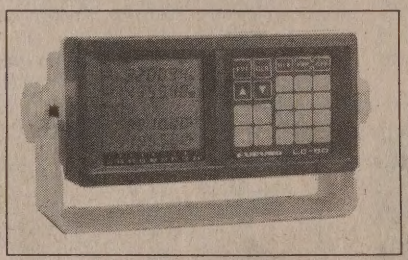
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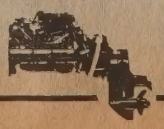

strong current, however, small cod are indeed a challenge to catch.

Furthermore, you never can tell how the cod are going to behave. The small ones, for example, are often as quick as porgies, and to make matters worse, they are often accompanied by bergalls. It takes some experimentation with the rig, and constant attention to the thick rod tip, before you learn to strike the fish at the precise moment. Until you get accustomed to the feel, you lose all the bait as soon as the rig hits bottom.

Indeed, I was frustrated two summers ago for over an hour while two regular codfish anglers on my left and right hooked one fish after the other. Although I changed hooks and baits several times and adjusted the hook to different heights above the 14 ounce sinker, the problem continued. I would lower the carefully baited rig to the bottom and wait for a sign of life. Nothing doing. Then I would bring up a baitless hook.

Through trial and error, I finally realized what was wrong. At the beginning of the trip, the mate had recommended 12 ounces of lead. Lacking a 12 ounce sinker, I figured that 14 ounces would hold bottom. It certainly did. In fact, it held bottom so well, I couldn't feel a nibble. Having tried everything else, I finally switched to 10 ounces.

In fact, on my first cast with the lighter rig, I finally saw the rod tip tremble ever so slightly. Raising it sharply, I felt a solid weight on the line, and ten minutes later, I had my first cod of the day.

It was extraordinary that the largest cod I took that day—a specimen of about 15 lbs.—struck initially with no greater force than a 6 ounce bergall. Only after setting the hook and keeping the rod tip high at the beginning of the retrieve could you feel the difference. Which shows you what a difference 4 ounces of lead makes!

Not all of the summer cod at Coxes Ledge behave this way, however. On a trip last summer, I and about 40 fishermen experienced difficult fishing. It was a new moon tide on a day in late July, and many people had trouble holding bottom with 16 ounces of lead. When the current slowed, however, we switched to lighter rigs and experienced a sudden flurry of activity. This was not a day for catching great numbers of fish; it was a day of quality. All the cod weighed over 15 pounds and there was a smattering of 30 pounders as well. These cod, unlike the typical summer pups, did not toy with the bait. They pounced on it. Cranking them in was like trying to tow a brick wall with a rubber band.

Although cod are not the strongest battlers, any fish over 10 pounds gives a good account of itself. It is best to play these fish carefully. For vigorously pumping the rod, as when bluefishing, only succeeds in wearing a large hole in old bucketmouth and the fish may tear free. Moreover, it is imperative to keep the rod tip high at the beginning of the bout in order to

prevent the fish from hanging you up on the bottom. Even at Coxes Ledge, there are areas where the bottom is cluttered. Any small cod can easily be hoisted over the rail. Large ones, however, will roll on the surface—a case of the bends—and await the gaff.

Whether the fish are large or small, a cod rig remains essentially the same. It consists of an 8/0 beak or O'Shaughnessy hook snelled to an 18 inch leader of 50 pound test. Preparing slightly smaller hooks on 12 and 14 inch snelled leaders is a good idea, especially if the fish are consistently small. A dropper loop on the running line, anywhere from a snell's length to 3 feet above the sinker, holds the hook. The sinker, whether bank or diamond shaped, is secured to an end loop on the running line and the rig is complete. Some people add a small piece of surgical tubing to the dropper-snell connection, which theoretically prevents the hook from riding up and wrapping itself around the main line. It doesn't always work, which is one reason why experienced fishermen release line slowly to the bottom.

I prefer a three way swivel and surge tube combination for the rig. A length of monofilament (preferably lighter than the running line) is tied to the swivel with an improved clinch knot. An end loop secures this line to the sinker. The running line is then tied to the swivel's second eyelet with another improved clinch knot, and the snelled hook is looped through the swivel's remaining eyelet. The latter connection is reinforced with the surge tube. This rig has two advantages over the other: first, it seldom tangles; second, if a snag occurs, the rig breaks at the swivel and saves a considerable amount of fshing fishing line.

Since cod of all sizes are attracted to skimmer clams, this bait is favored at Coxes Ledge, indeed at every codfishing spot on the East Coast. Skimmers are soft and difficult to work with in deep water, however. The clam-kabobs one sees so often on fishermen's rigs are not the answer. Cod and bergalls simply slurp the stuff off the hook and go scot free. Two slices of firm, bright yellow meat are sufficient to cover the hook, provided they are twisted and impaled tightly onto the shank with only the hook point exposed. Indeed, when most of the cod are small, there is no need to trail long strings of soft meat below the point. More important is to replace the bait as soon as it becomes pale and washed out. At Coxes Ledge, the bait should be checked every five minutes if the fishing is hot. Although skimmers are the primary bait, cod also feed on squid, butterfish, large sand eels, various crabs and strips of mackerel or herring. In fact, cod will eat almost anything.

Some days, codfishing at the ledge is performed from a drifting boat. A position at the stern or bow is favored because there is more room to cast and manipulate the rig, especially on the side where lines are moving out. From amidships the rig often drifts at an awkward angle to the rail. If you are fishing from the side where lines come back, cast the rig a good distance away and retrieve it slowly. Gently raising and lowering the rod while taking in the slack makes it easier to detect the faintest nibble from this side. From either side, if the rig settles directly beneath the boat, it should be raised slightly off the bottom and held in that position. Cod are not fond of dancing clams.

When the fish are concentrated, whether over a wreck in the vicinity or over a choice bank, the best side, of course, is the one facing the structure. Generally, when fishing at anchor, the best place is the stern, since rigs heading downcurrent are the first to encounter cod swimming upcurrent in pursuit of prey.

Almost all the fish taken at Coxes Ledge in the summer are cod although there are days when bluefish and occasionally even school tuna, are taken. The cod's relatives, such as pollock and hake, are taken primarily during the spring and fall runs.

The trip from Montauk to Coxes Ledge takes about three hours. Beginning at 4:30AM and ending at port around 4:30PM, the day is long. Still, nobody complains when the fishing is good and particularly when it is performed in the comfort of summer.

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BAYS OF WEAKS

by
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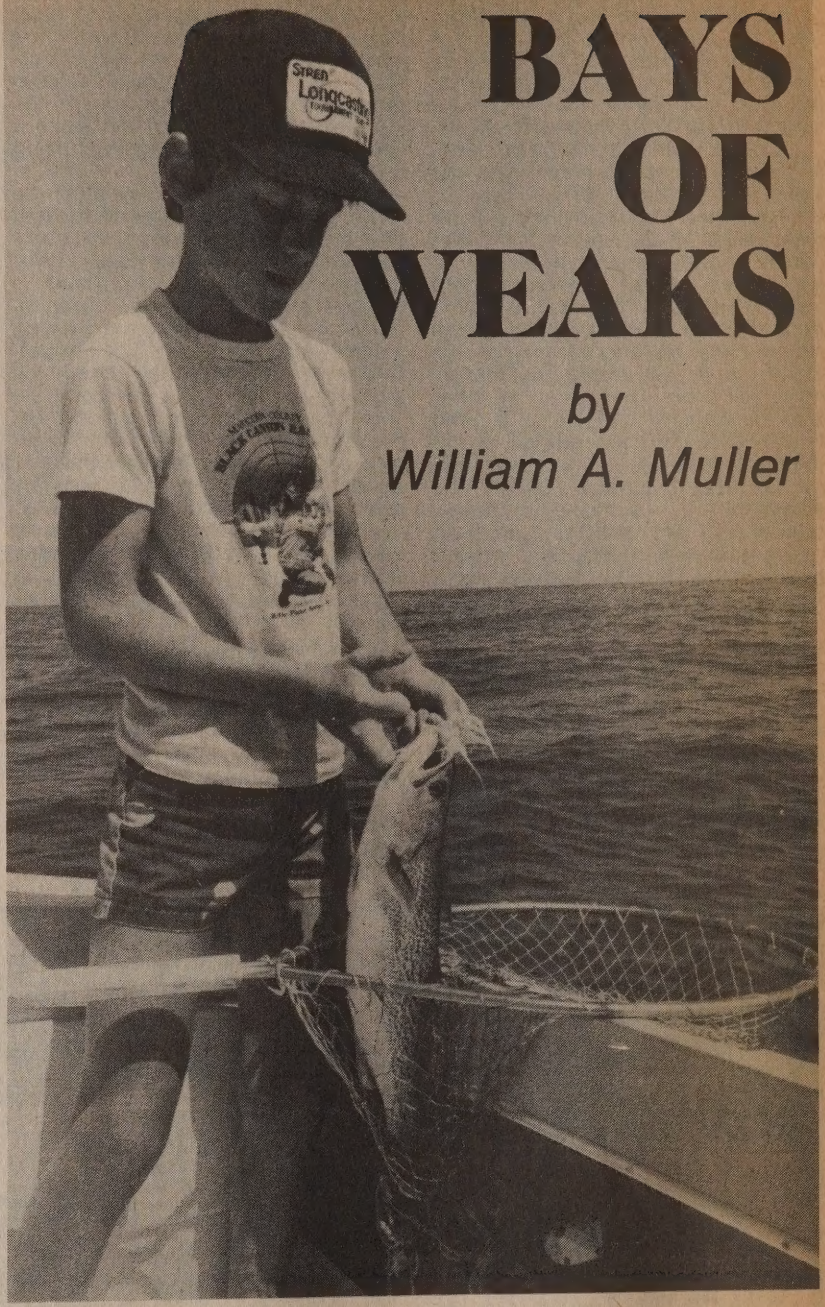

Catching summer weaks is often a lot easier than catching the yellowfin tiderunners of May and June. The reason for truth in the above statement is found in the migratory habits of weakfish, **Cynoscion regalis**.

It appears likely, from recent scientific data, that there exists several breeding stocks of the species along the East Coast. It may even be true that these are sub-species, but the final word on that will require more research. The point is that the southern stock appears to have more stable recruitment, which is a fisheries biologist's way of saying that their spawning is more reliable. Not only is spawning more reliable, but so is the success of hatched fish in the fish year. The northern stock, on the other hand, experiences incredible shifts in abundance. When conditions are just right in northern estuaries, relatively few fish can sire a year class of such size that when that year class enters the fishery it is as if they appeared out of nowhere. However, the reverse is also true. When conditions aren't just right even a large breeding stock cannot significantly add to the fishery. The result is boom and bust. We enjoy the "booms" very much, but in-between the 30 or so year "booms" there exists great droughts as far as the larger fish are concerned.

However, the success of the southern stock offers a plus or two for us along the Mid-Atlantic coast. Younger fish, fish up to about 5 pounds from both northern and southern stocks, migrate north-south. That is, young fish will move north

from the Carolinas and DelMarVa in July and swarm into our bays. These will join young of the year spawned of the northern stock. In late September or early October, depending upon the arrival of the first blast of cold weather, small fish from both stocks will migrate south again.

It is unclear whether four-year-old fish from southern stocks stop the north-south migration, but scientists are now quite sure that four or five year old fish from the northern stock will end their north-south pattern and head out onto the continental shelf in their fourth or fifth winter. Here they will winter in about 50 fathoms of water in a relatively small oval area of ocean that scientists call a "window."

This brief review becomes essential, I think, to understanding why we can catch a nice mess of one to five pound weaks in several of our bays during July and August even when spring tiderunners are few and far between.

Don't put these weaks down for their size. They often put up a struggle comparable to their larger cousins in water warmed by a summer sun. Then, too, these fish aren't ladened down with roe. The summer run fish, most coming up from the spill over of the stock, hit like an express train and fight with dogged enthusiasm.

There are a number of places where a fisherman can have a good shot at these summer fish. The most popular spots being Little Peconic Bay, Moriches Bay, and parts of the Great South Bay.

In the Peconics the fish are most often found in the Rose's Grove area, or the western part of the South Race where it flares out into Great Peconic Bay. At times, there can be a run of fish around Nassau Point and night fishing around Jessup's Neck can be most productive.

In the Great South Bay the fish can be anywhere. Two years ago good and consistent catches were made from Heckscher Park to Sayville, while in another year there were good catches to be had along the eastern shore of Fire Island Inlet in the vicinity of Democrat Point. Fishermen who had been taking one and two pounds blues on small tins for about a week, suddenly found similar sized weaks joining in.

In Moriches, action on summer run weaks had been confined mostly to the inlet area until last year when they showed up in impressive quantities to the east, down the channel. Here they swarmed for about two weeks; running at times north and south out of the channel into small coves and around grass islands chasing bait. In the last couple of years this was probably the most frantic action, but don't expect it to repeat in exactly the same way or in the same place. The abundance and patterns of bait will tell the tale of where they are and when.

The summer run of weaks in the Peconics used to be dependent upon shoals of squid that entered the bay annually in the spring and then reinforced in early summer. Joint ventures that harvest most of the squid in the near ocean prior to inshore migration ended that pattern several years ago, and in recent years the brown tides have spelled difficulty on top of existing travail.

Perhaps the smartest thing to do it follow the fishing reports in The Fisherman during key periods. Pay careful attention to the reports coming out of the three bay complexes mentioned above. The reports will show when there is an influx of fish. At that point consult bait and tackle stores in the area of the action, or boat liveries that may be operating. They will have the scoop that will tell you at what buoy, or flat, or channel the fish have been showing up.

In Great South Bay tins such as Hopkins and small Kastmasters are favorites for the summer fish. Plastic shrimp lures and Mr. Twister jig lures work at times, too, and on at least several occasions small diamond jigs were hot lures. In Moriches last year plastic shrimp lures and small jigs were used in the relatively shallow water of the bay where the weaks were lurking, a few fellas chummed them with grass shrimp in the current, while others drifted sandworms to waiting fish.

Unless the water is super shallow and the fish schooled up tight, I would prefer to use a high-low rig baited with squid on the lower hook and worm on the top. Chumming with grass shrimp is a very successful approach, but the shrimp are often very hard to net and expensive to buy; if you can find a bait supplier willing to get them and hold them. You can also chum with ground bunker, but that isn't as effective. If you have 10 feet of water or more and the schools are spread out, i'd prefer the drift approach with a high-low rig.

I use a 3/0 short shank hook (a new short shank model by Tru-Turn is ideal), tied directly to the sinker on a two foot leader. I bait this with squid. Cut pennant shaped pieces of squid and put the fat part through the hook dead-center only once to minimize twisting. Tie a dropper loop in your main line about three feet off the bottom, attach a barrel swivel and a three foot leader with a 5/0 hook. Depending upon your pocketbook, bait this hook with one, two, or three sandworms.

Drift in a suggested area where local experts have indicated have produced well. Make sure you carry a wide mouth net. In most places fluke are a good bet from the bottom hook, too and spice the action during slow periods. It is very important to fish the correct tidal stages and this information is also available from your bait and tackle dealer, boat livery, or marina operator.

This fishery is in trouble, so you might want to keep a few for the table and let the rest go for another trip.

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AUGUST ACTION

BY FRED GUARDINEER

AUG. 8-10 R.I. NEW ENGLAND OFFSHORE
A. ANDERSON, WM. SCHMIDT DR. WAKEFIELD, R.I.

AUG. 15-16 MASS. LADIES CAPE COD TUNA
P-TOWN, 1063 MAIN ST. HOLDEN, MA. 01520.

AUG. 6-8 N.J. BRIELLE WHITE MARLIN
K. PERL, 1 OCEAN AVE. BRIELLE, N.J. 08730

AUG. 6-9 N.J. MANUFACTURERS ROUND-UP
SO. JERSEY MARINA, BOX 641, CAPE MAY, N.J.

AUG. 12-14 N.J. OCEAN CITY SWORDFISH & MARLIN, R. McMURRAY, 10 KINGSTON LANE, OCEAN CITY, N.J. 08226.

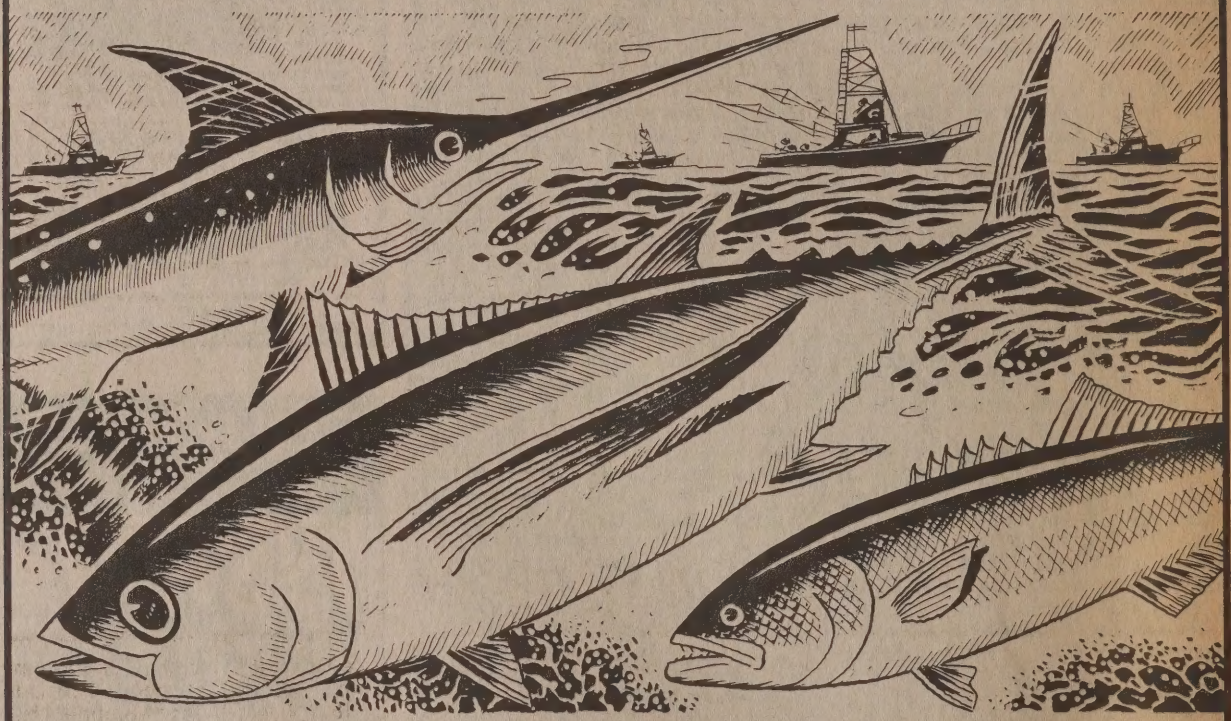
AUG. 19-22 R.I. NEWPORT BIG GAME
C. ALLEN, BOX 2993, BOSTON, MA. 02101.

AUG. 30-SEP. 3 MA. CAPE COD TUNA
P-TOWN, 1063 MAIN ST. HOLDEN, MA. 01520.

AUG. 22 DELAWARE GRAND SLAM, MILFORD C. OF C. BOX K, MILFORD, DE. 19963.

AUG. 22-27 N.J. MARLIN MARDI GRAS.
S. JERSEY MARINA, BX 641, C. MAY, N.J. 08204.

AUG. 29-30 N.J. MARLIN & TUNA,
ONE THOUSAND FATHOM CLUB, BOX 74,
NORTHFIELD, N.J. 08225-0074.



AUG. 8 L.I. AMERICAN DIABETES ASS'N.
TOURNEY, STATE CHANNEL MARINA, BOX 5-C
CAPTREE ISLAND, BABYLON, N.Y. 11702.

AUG. 22-SEP. 7 N.Y. L. ONTARIO SALMON
R. SCHLEYER, BX 23746, ROCHESTER 14692

AUG. 22 L.I. TUNA-BLUEFISH, LOMBARDO
MARINA, FREEPORT, MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY,
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AUG. 27-30 L.I. ARTHUR SMITH $250,000
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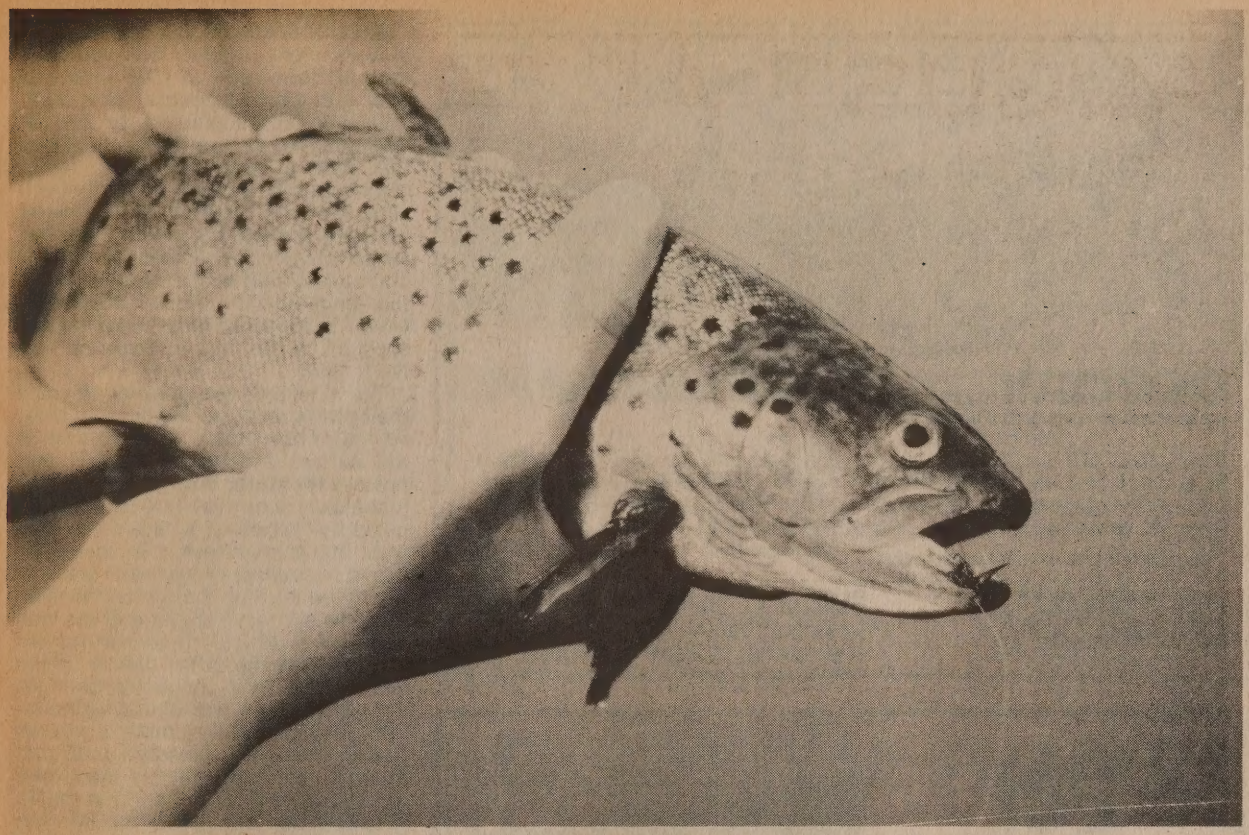

THINK SMALL FOR SUMMER TROUT

by Fred Laager

Spring is the season when trout will rise readily to large imitations thrown leisurely in the froth of a bubbling rapid. Water levels are high and the surface is usually broken and disturbed, allowing the angler to approach unseen within a few feet of his target. Flies cast in this kind of water are often consumed savagely because the trout does not have time to study the offering to decide if it is edible. The fish must taste it first, mouth it and then spit it out if it is not to his liking. If the angler is quick he will set the hook in the split second when the trout is tasting the meal and hopefully the fish will be his.

But summer brings with it falling water levels and changing conditions. Those reaches that were once frothing and turbid are now shallow, calm and clear. Trout are spooky during low water conditions and wary of any shadows or clumsy approaches. They are particularly selective of what they will consume and they will defy all but the most experienced and exacting approach. The change in water conditions also brings with it a change in the available food sources the trout had previously consumed. The abundant hatches of large spring mayflies have now been replaced by a multitude of minute insects in varying sizes and colors and the angler who can accurately imitate these minute marvels and present them naturally to the trout will find that fishing the small stuff is a highly rewarding and productive method for summer trout.

Small flies or midges are the rule for productive summer fishing and are classically fished in a dry fashion. Midges can imitate both aquatic and terrestrial foods that the trout of find of but stream-born life such as mayflies and caddis flies constitute the bulk of the trout's summer diet. Mayflies of the genus "Tricorythodes," called Tricos by most and "caenis" become an abundant food source for trout in the summer as do the microcaddis flies of similar size and proportions. Popular imitations of these mayflies include: the Jenny Spinner No. 24, the pale Olive Dun No. 18, the Poly-Winged Spinners No. 20 to No. 24 in brown, white and green; the Adam's Midge No. 22 and the Blue-Winged Olive Midge No. 22. Microcaddis imitations that are particularly effective during the summer include the Henryville Special No. 18, the Chuck Caddis No. 20 and No. 22 and the Lawson Spent Partridge Caddis No. 20 and No. 22. Remember, when the hatch is of mayflies, the naturals will have wings that ride straight up like the sail of a boat. When the hatch is of caddis the wings will be set back along the body in a delta fashion. Use this premise to choose your imitations accordingly. Terrestrials such as black and red ants in No. 18 to No. 24 and beetle imitations such as the Jassid No. 18 to No. 22 are particularly productive when fished along the bank using light gear that presents these patterns naturally.

(Continued on next page.)

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Small flies should only be fished on a very light tippet in diameters ranging from .004 to .006 inch and testing at 1¾ to 3 pounds. In X notation tippet size should not exceed 5X while 6X and 7X are the best size for this kind of work. A light leader combined with an ultra-fine tippet will allow the fly to "dance" on the water naturally and will not sink the fly. Because of the low water conditions often associated with summer fishing the length of the leader should be from 7 to 10 feet so that the fish aren't spooked by the thicker, more obtrusive flyline.

Trout not only recognize dry flies by their shape and color alone. Dry flies, no matter how small, when resting on the surface create a "bulge" that presses the water downward creating a shadowy lens that is easily recognized by fish much in the same way that the human eye can detect a defect in a mirror or a pane of glass. If the fly penetrates the surface tension this "lens effect" is lost and the fish now has a difficult time sorting out the fly from the other debris in the water. The fly's silhouette changes drastically when wet (a mayfly imitation might then resemble a caddis that the trout is not feeding on at that moment) and the ability of the angler to impart any life-like action to the fly is lost. When this occurs the offering usually drifts past the fish undetected and unwanted like the small pieces of vegetation and sediment common to most trout streams. Fine tippets and a light leader will present the small stuff naturally and will not sink the fly.

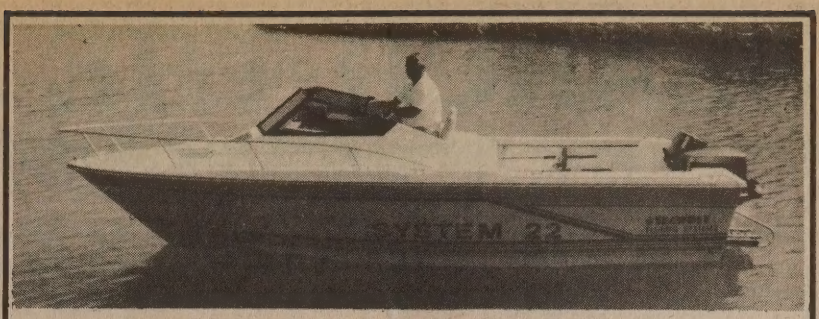
When fishing light leaders the flies must be kept small or accurate presentation will be difficult. Remember, the leader must carry the fly, not vice versa, so the fly size will have to increase as the leader and tippet get heavier. Keeping the fly size proportional to the leader (something even the more advanced trout fisherman fails to do sometimes) prevents the fly from being caught in the wind and dragging your line off target. This "sailboat effect" often is the cause of poor presentation, fishless days and subsequent frustration so when fishing large flies use heavy leaders, but when fishing the small stuff go long, light and thin.

But thin, ultra-fine leaders and tippets have a tendency to break easily on large fish especially when there is a lot of structure around for the trout to hide in and to rub the line against. Thin leaders are prone to abrasion damage so extreme care must be taken by the angler to play the fish away from such hazards. I know many fishermen who, after having lost a few "good fish" when using light lines, switched back to heavier leaders to prevent future breakoffs. The result of this, of course, was that the fish fell for the offerings on the heavier leaders were landed successfully, but most of these same fishermen reported that fewer strikes ensued due to the unnatural

action the leader imparted on the smaller flies. Most agreed that smaller flies were deadly on trout, but that when they used leaders that were strong enough to prevent constant breaking, the line often had too much memory and was often too thick to fit through the eye of 22s and 24s. Clearly they had a problem. They knew that the trout wanted the small stuff but the leaders used to fish these imitations productively often would break too easily using their conventional equipment and approach. What could they do?

To fish the small stuff, to fish light leaders without constantly breaking them, the whole fishing outfit must be scaled down to match the requirements of this kind of angling. Usually, light leaders break at the moment of the strike because the fly line being used is too heavy. The inertia of a heavy fly line or its indisposition to motion, exertion or action gives the fish something to pull against. The heavier the line and the more line that is clear of the rod tip, the more chance there is that the leader will snap on the impact of the strike. Sometimes, the rod being used might not even have a chance to bend to absorb the impact of the strike because too much line was out or the line was too massive for the leader used. To cure this problem light fly lines of No. 4 to No. 2 should be used when fishing flies No. 18 and smaller. Most manufacturers produce rods that will handle four or three weight lines and a few companies such as Fenwick, Orvis, Sage, J. Kennedy Fisher, Inc., and Thomas and Thomas even produce a two weight rod suitable for ultralight fishing. I prefer a four weight outfit in a weight forward taper as a nice compromise between being able to fish light leaders and still buck the occasional head wind when distance is required. The rod I use is a Kunnan 62 footer in four eight which is perfect for the casting I do on the Carman's River, but a longer rod would be the better choice when the river being fished is large and free of overhanging growth. The longer rod will keep more line off the water and not give the fish a whole lot to pull against.

Once the proper equipment is acquired the angler may then work on the element that requires practice; that is, the proper presentation and placement of the fly. Fly floatant should always be used to achieve a high buoyancy and this will aid in accomplishing a drag free float. Casts should be short and the angler should always strive to get as close to the quarry as possible. Remember, when fishing tiny flies, too much line out equals poor placement and broken tippets. Plan your approach. Keep your casts short and accurate and don't make any sudden movements that will disturb the water. Practice the art of stalking and you will find that fishing the small stuff can yield some big rewards and a lot of pleasant memories.



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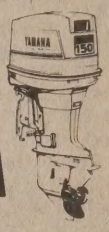

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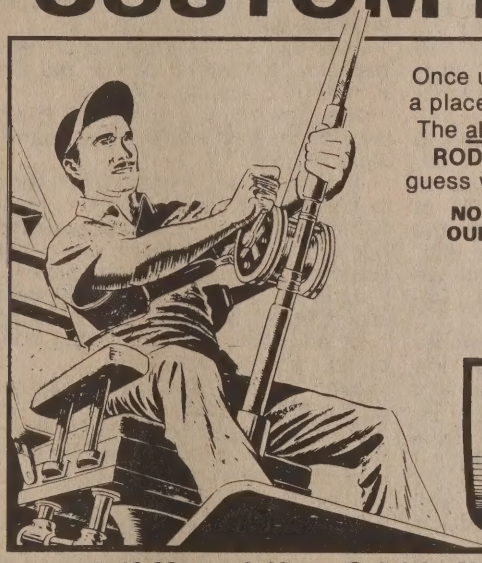

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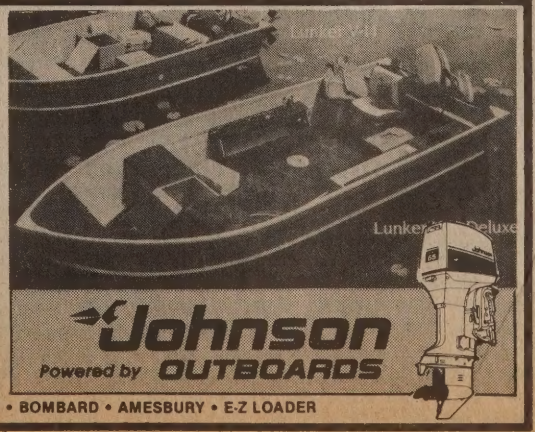

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SEARCH THE SOUND

by Ted Keatley

"...bigger fish usually hang around harbors and coves where they can harass the mossbunker schools."

Although a good season for porgies and fluke seems to be shaping up in Western Long Island Sound, the major portion of sportsmen's efforts will be devoted to bluefish.

The question That I get most often is where can I go for bluefish. When bank robber Willie Sutton was asked why he robbed banks, his answer was direct and to the point: "That's where the money is!" In the same vein, the place to catch bluefish is where the bluefish are. This is an honest answer although it is not likely to win me many friends.

Actually, there are few places in Western Long Island Sound which do not provide good bluefishing at some time during the year. As a rule of thumb, the small fish tend to stay out in open water while the bigger fish usually hang around habors and coves where they can harass the mossbunker schools.

This season, I began bluefishing just after the middle of May in mid-Sound "off the hospital" (about halfway between the Lilco stacks at Northport and Cranes Neck). The area normally is where they make their first appearance. However, I never fished east of Long Neck Point (Collender's) at Darien in June.

An umbrella rig with white tubes seemed most effective during my first few trips. After that, I trolled exclusively with a Periwinkle hair jig dressed with Uncle Josh tail hook pork rind. It should be noted that I am interested in big fish rather than a lot of blues regardless of size. I find that a hair jig consistently produces bigger fish than an umbrella.

Although I sometimes cast a plug after stopping the boat to allow my fishing partner to work a fish, I have done no bait fishing. Incidentally, I use an 8 foot rod with a Penn 970 conventional reel for casting. Thus, light lures are not practical. My weapon of choice is the 7 inch sinking Rebel. The lighter floating model does not cast as well and seems to be less attractive to bluefish. However, it probably is a better selection for striped bass. I sometimes use big poppers as well, although I am not particularly partial to them. The 5½ inch sinking Rebel is deadly for both bluefish and striped bass. Unfortunately, it is a little light for casting with a revolving spool saltwater reel. I never have felt that spinning tackle gave me proper control of the line and rarely use it.

Perhaps a good way to answer the "where to" question would be to summarize my June fishing trips (a trip normally means four to five hours from the time that I leave my dock in Stamford until I tie up again). The fish at buoy 15 (Lloyds Neck) were in the 3 to 5 lb. class and most of the fish at Hempstead were only a few pounds heavier. However, on subsequent trips, most of the fish were over 10 lbs. and few were under eight.

June 1, 27 fish: All were taken in the vicinity of buoy 15. Most were caught in deep water north of the buoy.

June 8, 6 fish: Scattered action from buoy 15 to Parsonage Point at Rye. A 10 lb. striped bass was caught and released.

June 11, 32 fish: The action was between Hempstead Harbor and the K racing buoy in mid-Sound.

June 12, 20 plus fish: The blues were on the east side of outer Hempstead Harbor.

June 15, 1 fish: There was no action in Hempstead Harbor and the small fish on top at the E racing buoy and buoy 32A off Greenwich would not respond to trolling or cast lures.

June 16, 31 fish: The blues were concentrated between the E racing buoy and Little Captains Island. The biggest fish was 13½ lbs.

June 17, 7 fish: There was no action at the previous day's hotspot or in Stamford Harbor. We caught seven fish from 10 to 15½ lbs. between Cummings Park at Stamford and Collenders in Darien.

June 18, 14 fish: The bluefish were between Cummings Park and Collenders again. The largest was almost 16 pounds.

June 22, 18 fish: The blues ran up to about 16 lbs. and were taken between Cummings and Collenders as well as at the mouth of both Greenwich Cove and the Mianus River at Cos Cob.

June 23, 21 fish: The blues were into the bunkers off Cummings Beach and out along the Shippan Point shore. The biggest was about 16 lbs.

June 24, 15 fish: The action was between Cummings Park and Collenders. The fish ran from 9 to 16 lbs.

June 25, 20 plus fish: Three were taken off Cummings Park and the balance were caught between the Mianus River and Greenwich Harbor at Greenwich. The weights ranged from 8 to 14 lbs.

June 29, 7 fish: I went out at 3:30PM to check out a motor repair and took along a rod to protect myself in case I was attacked by a vicious bluefish. I was back at the dock in little more than an hour with seven large bluefish and left them still hitting on every pass.

I believe that this summary explains why the "where can I catch bluefish" query is pretty much unanswerable. In the course of a month, I fished a distance of almost 20 miles on both sides of the Sound.

Note all of the references to fish in the 15 to 16 pound range. There were thin fish which had recently spawned. After a summer of heavy feeding, they will fatten up toward the 20 pound mark as fall approaches.

In recent columns, I have covered trolling, casting and cut bait fishing as well as the fine art of bunker snatching. The only technique which I have not discussed is live-lining mossbunkers.

For many years, livelining was my favorite method. It is particularly effective with cow striped bass. If striped bass fishing returns to its former glory, I probably would be out there snagging bunkers at dawn again. However, a trolled Periwinkle jig has proven so effective for big blues that I no longer bother with bunkers. Since bluefish keep more sensible hours than striped bass, I now can sleep a little later because I do not have to worry about the bunker schools disappearing as the sun climbs higher in the sky.

If you do want to try bunker dunkin', here is the method which worked for me over the years.

Bunkers have been quite plentiful this year, primarily because of reduced commercial fishing pressure along the Atlantic Coast. Although menhaden represent 40 percent of the six billion pounds of fish landed annually, the Gulf Coast provides about 80 percent of the catch. As an aside, you might consider the impact of reduced red meat consumption by the diet conscious on sport fishing. Standard Products closed their Reedville, VA menhaden plant during the 1986 season because low fish meal prices made operation uneconomic.

One problem with live bunkers is that a blue likes to chop off the bunker's tail and then come back to finish off the meal at its leisure. I have devised a rig which solves the problem with big fish although the small ones which eat the bunker an

inch at a time remain an aggravation.

I use a 7/0 Sproat hook and attach a second to the shank of the first with about four inches of nylon coated wire leader. If the loop is pulled up snugly against the shank of the first hook before the sleeve is crimped, there is no danger of it slipping off. The barb of the top hook acts as a stop to prevent this. I use a 6/0 or 7/0 Sproat for the tail hook. Finally, I snell the first hook with about 8 inches of nylon coated cable to prevent an overeager blue from chopping me off.

When rigging, I run the first hook under the dorsal fin of the bunker and leave the hook point exposed. The second hook is laid along the tail of the bunker and held in place with a small rubber band. Ideal bands can be bought at the cosmetic counter of the Five and Dime. They are intended for the pony tails of little girls.

Do not allow the bunker to take out more than 75 feet of line. A longer length makes striking the fish difficult. The straightest possible line between you and the bunker improves the chance of successful hook setting.

I always use revolving spool reels for this type of fishing to provide better line control. I fish with the drag backed off and either the click engaged or an attentive finger on the line. If you rely on the click with the reel in free spool, an overly ambitious blue can cause a beautiful backlash. With a little practice, it is not hard to tighten the drag on a running fish after you have used thumb pressure to set the hook.

The timing for setting the hook is difficult to judge. However, the chance of losing a fish by reacting too quickly is far greater than the risk of waiting too long. Relax and give the fish a chance to take the bait down. When you set the hook, begin the retrieve with the rod tip high above your head if that is necessary to prevent slack line. There is no better way of losing a fish than striking and then dropping the rod tip before beginning the retrieve. That moment of slack is all that your friend needs to spit the hook and head over the hill and far away.

A bunker often will warn you of an impending strike. If it circles erratically and appears to be having a nervous breakdown, there is a good chance that something big is giving it the evil eye. A bluefish usually comes in slashing, but a striped bass is slower and more deliberate. As a rule, a series of sharp yanks means a bluefish. A striped bass normally mouths the bunker and moves away slowly and deliberately.

If you are using small bunkers, there always is the chance of taking a big weakfish. There are not very many around, but the remnants from the superior year classes of 10 years ago are trophy size. Since the Chesapeake had tremendous numbers of small weakfish last season, we may begin to see the slow rebuilding of the Long Island Sound population before too many years.

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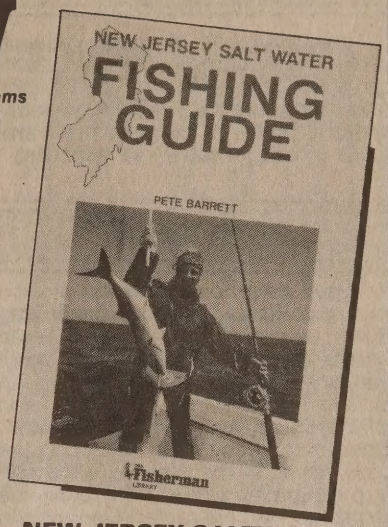

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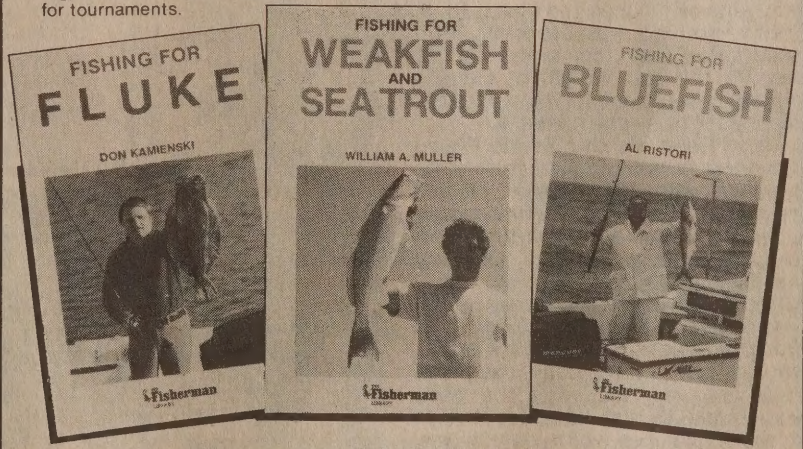

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Tuna fever has reached epidemic proportions. Large yellowfins, with enough giant bluefins to keep things interesting, are taking chunked baits. Inshore, plenty of porgies, fluke and blues around to satisfy all appetites.

MONTAUK

There have been plenty of cod caught at Cox's Ledge on the **Viking Star**, according to Capt. Steven Forsberg with a dozen or more hangers per trip. Last Tuesday, in fantastic action, the pool was won with a 53 lb. cod. On the weekend, Kevin Kelly caught 14, including the pool fish of 34 lbs. Sunday's big fish was caught by Louie, a 39 lber., the largest of 19 in his cooler. Cod trips in August are scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Tuna trips are scheduled every Monday and Wednesday leaving at 10AM during August. Captain Hank Lachner calls night bluefishing "erratic," with plenty of blues seen, but on some nights reluctant to bite. A nice pick of fish on the **Starlite**, said Bill Urvalek, who generally fishes the North Rips. Friday morning was especially hot, since three men combined for 25 keepers, the pool caught by Eugene Dispatsio vacationing from Florida. The doormat weighed 9½ lbs.

Hazel Reed, fishing on the **Flying Cloud** early last week, returned to Brooklyn with 137 porgies. Action tapered off a bit with the new moon, according to Captain Fred Bird; however, on Sunday "Spider" Dolberry managed 47 porgies.

Reservations are suggested on the **Lazybones**, since hot fluking has brought large crowds. Ted Caruso, who has been fishing daily, caught 10 fluke one day, including the pool. Many 4 to 6 lb. fish have been noted in recent catches, with only a few shorts.

Excellent fluking, with over a dozen sea bass on some rental boats, according to Henry Uihlein. On Sunday, Mori Yoshinon and his friends Mitsuia, Kazi, Fukazawa and Kiyomi fished about a mile north of Buoy 3 for 27 fluke, a few 5 lbs. Peter Geraghty and his sons fished between Shagwong and the Lighthouse for a dozen fluke plus some triggerfish. Henry's brother-in-law, George Westuba, vacationing from Florida, found a dozen flounder right in the lake, fishing with his friend, Bill. The flounder ranged from small to about a pound. **Uihlein's Boat Rentals** marked another "first" this week when Bob Ruth, who berths his boat at **Uihlein's** returned with two tuna on Thursday, seven on Saturday. The yellowfins ranged from 40 to 90 lbs. in weight.

"It's definitely tuna time" according to June at the **Montauk Marine Basin** with yellowfin ranging from 60 to 120 lbs., albacore to 50 lbs. and a sprinkling of giant bluefin brought int the marine. A giant of 415 lbs. was caught on the "Tamarak"; one of 383 lbs. on the "Seven Sisters." "Sea Wolf" bagged 5 yellowfin Saturday; "Merlin" 3 albacore; "Second" caught one of each. All tuna were caught chunking. A large thresher shark took a chunked bait on the marina based boat "Ronja," and was released. The fish was estimated at 600 lbs.

Highlighting the weekend's catch at **Star Island Yacht Club**, was the 478 lb. blue marlin, caught on "Swamp Fox" by Anthony Chimblo. The fish was caught at the Fishtail, the only bright spot on an otherwise slow trip. A couple of giant bluefish were weighed: one of 576 lbs. caught by Jack Reed on "No Interest," another weighing 429 lbs., was caught on "Sidelines" with 17 year old Stacy Zalluzzo on the rod. Plenty of tuna, most chunked, some trolled off Block Island, were brought in on the weekend. Catches include an allison of 155 lbs. on the "Wake"; yellowfin of 143 on "Gemini," a couple of tuna to 107 lbs. on "Mr. B." Steve Chimblo returned with a 128 lb. bluefin on Sunday. Anthony Cutaia handled a 50 lb. white marlin on "Cutter's Edge."

Eighteen year old Jennifer Walter defeated this 343 lb. blue marlin after a 1½ hour battle at The Dip. The big billfish hit a green Kona Head trolled from her family's boat, Marlin.

Jim Grubb, Doug MacVittie, Tony Parker and Sonny chunked at the Butterfish Hole on Saturday and while they had a couple of runoffs, the group did return with a 100 lb. bluefin on "My Joy II."

Captain Rob Aaronson reports great tuna action on chunked baits, with many hook-ups on 50 pound tackle. The charter boat **Orion** has had many successful trips during the week, hooking into 6 to 9 tuna per day: bluefins to 90 lbs. and yellowfins to 180 lbs. A giant bluefin which weighed 347 was successfully fought on 50 pound tackle. On one trip, a 21 lb. hammerhead grabbed a tuna bait and was boated, despite mono leader.

Captain Rob also reported lots of tuna brought to the scales at **Tuma's Dock and Tackle** including tuna to 180 lbs. on "Big Wink" and yellowfins of 95 and 185 lbs. on "Abracadabra." Inshore, "Sport Fisher" is loading up with blues every day.

Captain Joe McBride reported phenomenal tuna catches by charter boats berthed at **Captain's Cove Marina**, with most yellowfins ranging from 100 to 160 lbs. Charter boats that are into this tuna blitz include the **Kraken III** which returned with from 2 to 5 yellowfins per trip; **Mistress Too** with 3 to 5 tuna a trip; **My Mate** with 2 to 4 per trip, including two over 125 lbs. on Friday. Other charter boats include **Joy-Sea, Mako Express, Surfmaster II, Ebb Tide** and **Windy**. While most tuna have been taken on chunked baits, **Reel Magic** has caught 2 to 4 per trip both chunking and trolling. Action inshore remains very good, with lots of bluefish in the Triangle, many bass with some keepers and excellent fluking. Marina based boats that are fluking are returning with as many as 40 keepers per trip.

Fine catches were reported from charter boats berthed at **Gone Fishing Marina**. Captain Bob Storc, fishing with John Zielinski and Glenn Halem on the **Caprice**, caught several bushels of porgies to 3½ lbs. on Friday. Saturday's tuna trip to Block Island waters resulted in several yellowfin to 135 lbs.

Captain Bill Ricca reported on Friday's trip with the Lady Reelers Fishing Club on the **Alyssa Ann**, arranged by Pat Walch. Action was seen when a white marlin jumped about a dozen times before spitting the hook. The women all took turns on a giant that broke loose after 20 minutes; a yellowfin estimated at 125 lbs., was lost at the boat. That's fishing! On Saturday, with a charter by Pete Stanton and his friends from Queens, several yellowfin were boated, the heaviest 158 lbs. Sunday's charter with the Mastranzelo family scored with a 50 lb. longfin.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	5:30	6:05	6:05	6:45	6:05	6:30	7:05	7:25	8:50	9:10	8:50	9:10	5:30	6:00	8/6
FRI.	6:35	7:00	7:10	7:45	7:10	7:35	8:00	8:20	10:05	10:20	9:50	10:15	6:25	6:50	8/7
SAT.	7:30	7:55	8:10	8:40	8:05	8:25	8:55	9:15	11:10	11:25	10:50	11:10	7:20	7:45	8/8
SUN.	8:25	8:45	9:05	9:35	9:00	9:15	9:45	10:05	—	12:05	11:45	11:05	8:10	8:35	8/9
MON.	9:15	9:35	10:00	10:25	9:50	10:10	10:40	11:00	12:20	12:55	—	12:35	9:00	9:25	8/10
TUES.	10:05	10:25	10:50	11:15	10:45	11:00	11:30	11:55	1:15	1:45	12:55	1:25	9:50	10:15	8/11
WED.	10:55	11:10	11:40	11:55	11:35	11:55	—	12:20	2:05	2:35	1:45	2:15	10:40	11:00	8/12
THURS.	11:45	11:55	—	12:30	—	12:35	12:45	1:15	3:00	3:30	2:40	3:05	11:30	11:50	8/13

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/6	5:58	8:12
FRI. 8/7	5:59	8:11
SAT. 8/8	6:00	8:10
SUN. 8/9	6:01	8:09
MON. 8/10	6:02	8:08
TUE. 8/11	6:03	8:06
WED. 8/12	6:04	8:04

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/6	6:25PM	1:55AM
FRI. 8/7	7:20PM	3:05AM
SAT. 8/8	8:00PM	4:25AM
SUN. 8/9	8:35PM	5:50AM
MON. 8/10	9:05PM	7:10AM
TUE. 8/11	9:25PM	8:30AM
WED. 8/12	9:50PM	9:45AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
8/24	9/1	8/9	8/16

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	2:30	**8:45**	2:55	**9:20**
Fri.	3:35	**9:50**	4:00	**10:20**
Sat.	4:35	**10:50**	5:00	**11:20**
Sun.	5:35	**11:45**	5:55	—
Mon.	6:30	**12:15**	6:55	**12:45**
Tues.	7:20	**1:10**	7:55	**1:40**
Wed.	8:15	**2:05**	8:50	**2:35**
Thurs.	9:10	**3:00**	9:40	**3:25**

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On the charter boat **Fisherman II** Bruce Sarantie and his party landed three yellowfin to 150 lbs., but lost a giant bluefin after an hour's fight. On Sunday, with the Kissane party from Rockland County, a bluefin, estimated at 800 lbs., was lost.

Many marina based boats participated in yellowfin action on the weekend, with impressive fish weighed at the scales at **Gone Fishing Marina**, according to TJ. The largest yellowfin, caught by Ed Looft on "Lamplighter" weighed a whopping 220 lbs. Tuna to 150 lbs. were caught on "Francesca," "Little Rascal" and "Contagious." Best tuna action was reported off Block Island, with lesser action in the butterfish Hole. On Thursday, Joe, Tota, Billy, Bob and Joe caught 4 yellowfins, top weight 150 lbs., on the "Nina." On Saturday, ramp customer John Cleary, managed to put a 342 lb. bluefin plus a 150 lb. yellowfin into his trailered boat. Dave Heshler ignored the tuna action, tried for shark two miles south of the Butterfish hole. With Kimberly on angling chores, a 175 lb. mako plus a 147 lb. hammerhead was brought back on "Dr. Rocket."

Fine inshore action as well, and although many small fluke moved into the North Rips on the weekend, several doormats were caught, including fluke of 11¾ and 9 lbs., the biggest of 26 fluke caught by George and Eva Emmerick on their trailered boat. The group on "Merry" returned with 28 fluke, biggest 8 lbs. Some sea bass are around, and porgies are definitely in.

Captain Ron Grandinetti reported on the weekend's action on the charter boat, **Julie III**. Saturday's trip with Pete the Coffeeman loaded up with 117 blues caught off Block Island and 150 porgies at the Point. On Sunday, Tyrone Lewis and his friends counted a catch of 308 porgies plus a dozen sea bass, fishing at the Point.

Captain Mike Albronda of the charter boat **Montauk**, reported that action with school tuna remains good, with yellowfin to 122 lbs. caught on charters the past week. A notable catch included that of a bluefin weighing 147 lbs., caught on 60 pound line, two yellowfins each over 100 lbs., plus a 75 lb. mako that took a tuna bait. A group from Rockland County, headed by Al Atkins was on board for this action.

Captain Donnie Bradick continues to locate his share of giant bluefin. During the past week Angelo Montforte handled one of 643 lbs. on **Fish On**. Another of 565 lbs. was fought by Tom Feschetti.

Great tuna action on the weekend, according to Capt. Jim Flowers on the charter boat **Mary A.** On Friday, the Colprovia party boated a 110 lb. yellowfin, had two other hook-ups. Saturday's group, the Suzukas went home with a 154 lb. yellowfin, 30 lb. albacore and 40 lb. white marlin. The Watson party managed tuna of 136, 122 and 108 lbs. on Sunday. All fish were caught on bait southeast of

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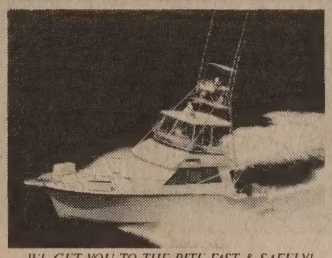

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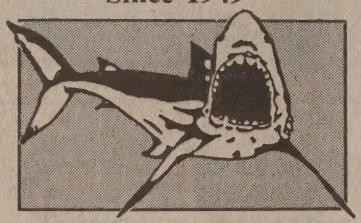

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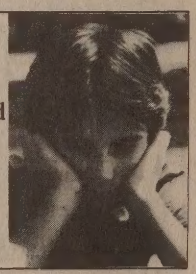

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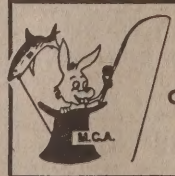

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THE Fisherman

Block Island.

Lots of yellowfin on the charter boat **King Wayne** with up to 6 tuna per trip. Highlighting the week's action, however, was the successful capture of a 401 lb. giant bluefin with a group from Certified Steel Ironworkers, #361. James Simmons, Capt. King's brother-in-law, took only 40 minutes to subdue the brute.

Both Captain Mike Bentivegna, Jr. and Captain Paul Lahullier enjoyed very good action with yellowfins and bluefins on **Pronto Charters** during the past week. On Wednesday, 5 yellowfin to 150 lbs., plus a white marlin were caught by John Cirigliano and his party. Dr. Van Son and his group landed three tuna to 110 lbs. While on Friday, the fish were slow to bite, Cia Kessler and her friend Mona took to the tuna experience magnificently, handling all baiting chores. Saturday's trip on **Pronto**, a change of pace with Jim McCoo, saw over 3 dozen medium size bluefish, 2 dozen sea bass to 3 pounds, along with a load of sea perch to 4 lbs. put into the fish box. Although many hook-ups were made on Sunday, no tuna were boated.

On a charter last week with Alexander Sholmm and his friends, a 62 lb. white marlin, plus yellowfin tuna to 125 lbs., were caught on the **Gusto**. Friday's charter with Mr. Werner Pippe was a repeat performance of marlin and yellowfin. However, on Sunday, after a bluefin estimated at about 250 lbs. was lost at the boat, the group hooked into a big one. Jim Engiert and his brother-in-law Artie Hoerning triumphantly returned with a giant of 530 lbs.

Captain Tom Federico reported another successful ''ladies' day'' on **Surfmaster II** when Carleen Meers fought her first tuna ever, a yellowfin of 112 lbs., cheered on by Melissa Mercogliano, Bobby and Eddie. During the week successful bluefish trips were chartered by Pat Mattioli, whose 9-year-old son Gregg managed to reel in four baggers on trolled rigs; and by a group from Mobile Oil that included Joe, Gina, Denise and Tom. After a slow tuna bite on Saturday, Sunday's group lucked out with a 117 lb. yellowfin and 34 lb. albacore. Fishing the Butterfish Hole on Sunday were Richie, Russ, Vinnie and John Amato, with Joseph Gillespie and Larry Seccafico.

SOUTH FORK

The fishing picture remains relatively stable, said Chris Salb at **Bayview Marine and Tackle**. Anglers on rental skiffs find porgy catching best on the moving tide at Cedar Point. Best results have been by those who first drift to locate the porgies, anchor and then chum heavily to keep them behind the boat. Clams, worms and squid are all producing well. Many blues have been trolled at Jessups Neck and also at Plum Gut. Small fluke have returned to Gardiners, however, enough keepers to make the trip worthwhile.

Monday's fluke trip on the **Wilhelric II** was excellent, with very few shorts and many fluke over 5 lbs., the pool on each trip over 6 lbs. On Tuesday and Wednesday, while more small fluke were caught possibly due to poor sea and wind conditions, Sag Harbor resident, Eddie, copped the pool with a fluke of just under 7 pounds. Captain Artie Lach described the porgy catching as excellent from Thursday through Sunday. Well over 1,100 porgies were hauled aboard on Friday on only two drops, with Peter Kay returning to Holbrook with 89 fish. Saturday and Sunday was equally as productive with T. Monroe high hooking with 76 fish. While average catches were 25 to 50 porgies per angler, experts using light line and bringing worms on board are doing best.

According to Thom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle**, fluke were decent over the weekend. John Russo and his 12 year old son David managed 22 keepers in a running tide outside Shinnecock Inlet. Ten-year old Spencer Bagley of Southampton scored with an 18 inch fluke, largest of several caught drifting east of the Ponquogue bridge on Saturday. Flounder persist west of the bridge. Triggerfish were noticed by Dean and Bruce Petersen, who with their friend Dave Stockert, caught about a half dozen in three feet of water in Old Fort Pond in Southampton. Plenty of snappers have come in and can be found anywhere. Blues and weakfish have been caught off the jetties, with west side best. Bob Tangolics went to 40 fathoms, but returned with a 120 lb. yellowfin that took a bait.

Captain Ron Woodward, of the charter boat, **Goshawk**, returned to **Sherry and Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** with a 160 lb. thresher shark, caught by Peter Carhart on Saturday's charter. Seventy-four year old Grandma Pavick acted as captain on the marina based boat ''Haleakala,'' guiding her crew, Hal, Dee and Joey on a nifty porgy spot in Heady Creek. The group caught over 50 of these scrappy fish, including many doubleheaders. On the ''Misty Blue'' Bob, fishing with Tom and Pat Herley and Don Kopper, boated a 120 lb. yellowfin.

Marty Mairoana traveled from **Mariners Cove Marina** to the Butterfish Hole on Tuesday on his ''Pocket Rocket,'' returning with yellowfin of 89 and 121 lbs., caught chunking.

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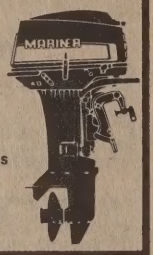

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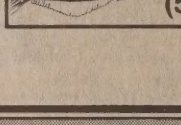

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Greta and Bob Petersen found 74 degree water temperatures in 150 feet of water southeast of Shinnecock and after dropping two marlin in the morning, did boat a 50 lb. yellowfin. Eric Ercker caught a few blues outside Shinnecock Inlet; then tried fluking near the Ponquogue Bridge where he caught three large enough to keep. Eric also caught a bunch of flounder, most small, in the vicinity of the Bridge.

Dave, at **Altenkirch and Son**, heard of sporadic action with tuna, best in 130 to 150 feet of water out of Shinnecock; ditto at the Butterfish Hole. Marlin this week were best in 150 feet. Not much news from the Canyon. Inshore, decent fluking was centered at the west side of the Ponquogue Bridge, as well as on the incoming tide on drifts from the east cut to the Basket. While snappers are still small, the canal affords much action. Blues are liable to be anywhere, but bass catches are concentrated in the Inlet. Several weakfish were caught in the inlet this week as well.

Al Flexer and Tom Wasilewicz caught a dozen fluke on Saturday, while on Sunday Al had 11 keepers all on **Al Feather's Feather Jigs**, fluke to 4 lbs. Al noted that many 8 to 12 lb. blues were taken from the surf at Ponquogue Beach on plugs and tins on the weekend. Flounder ranging from 1/2 to 1½ lbs. were located in Tiana Bay and off the Coast Guard Station, while smaller flounder with some keeper fluke were noted from Callahan's Dock.

South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

The fluking picture changed little this week with lots of shorts still dominating the action in both bays and inlets. Maybe a slight improvement with a few larger fish around depending on the area fished. Some surprisingly good flounder catches even overshadowed the fluke fishing in Moriches Bay and a couple of good catches also made in the Sore Thumb Pocket at Fire Island Inlet. The offshore news was highlighted by the catch of a 921 pound blue marlin during the Capt. Bill's Marlin and Tuna Invitational Tournament. Otherwise the majority of boats that roam the canyons did little more than burn lots of fuel. Best bet for tuna was inshore around wrecks like the Linda, Yankee and Virginia. Also some good action reported around the HA Buoy. Look for this inshore tuna fishing to heat up over the next week or two.

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Marty Martaron of Sag Harbor caught this 8¾ lb. fluke off of Jessup's back on July 2nd.

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MORICHES BAY & INLET

Liz Sepulveda at **L&M Marine Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** said that fluke fishing continues to be dominated by lots of shorts. She did look over one good catch however made by a single angler who kept 17 keepers out of a reported 120 fish on Sunday. He worked the New Cut and the Elbow. Flounder fishing continued good this week and attracted attention from some otherwise fluke hopefuls. On Saturday, Mike DiGiordano, Paul Sebesta and Jeff Flaxman put away 76 flounder south of Buoy 29. They also had 6 keeper fluke for their efforts.

Flounder fishing may be a better bet than fluke fishing according to Gary Grunseich at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**. Fluke continue to provide good action but many anglers are getting bored with all of the shorts. Instead, some customers are concentrating on flounder in the deep water south of buoys 33 and 36 on incoming tide. Most boats return with from 20 to 40 flatties in the ¾ to 2 pound range. Worms and red dyed clams are working on the flatties. Crabbing was excellent on the weekend with several boats taking between 50 and 100 blue claws right out in front of the station on bunker baited lines. Matt and John Viol managed 12 keeper fluke along with a load of small blues on Saturday. They

Matt and John Viol put together this nice catch of Moriches Bay fluke back on July 6th. They did their fishing out of a skiff rented from Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches.

returned on Sunday to load up on crabs. Big bass continue to be live-lined at the inlet on bunker and eels with fish to 48 pounds taken this week. Lots of blues inside the bay and inlet with bigger fish outside at the Sea Buoy.

From **Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**, George Kideris painted a familiar picture of lots of fluke but lots of shorts. He said that small blues in the 2-3 pound class are helping to spice the action. He suggested working the New Cut, Buoy 29 and Buoy 29A. Some good flounder catches also checked into his station. Tony, Tom and Carl Grasso along with a friend Milton put away 70 flounder southwest of Buoy 29 one day this week. They finished up with 12 keeper fluke. Bluefishing remains consistently good at the Sea Buoy for private boatmen. Saturday saw yellowfin tuna trolled on birds and green machines southeast of the inlet along the 650 line. Sunday was another story as most boatmen found a relatively quiet ocean.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello at **J&J Tackle** in **Patchogue** called the snapper fishing the best in years. He named Patchogue and Swan Rivers and Tuttles and Coreys Creeks as being loaded with the baby blues. Crabbing also excellent from most docks for those using bunker baited traps. An occasional short fluke still being picked from the docks as well. Several customers reported loads of 1-5 pound blues in Moriches Inlet with bigger choppers at the Sea Buoy. Fluking in both bays is made up of mostly shorts with a

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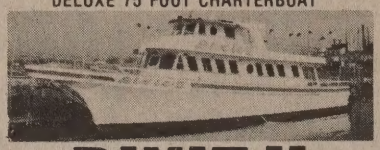

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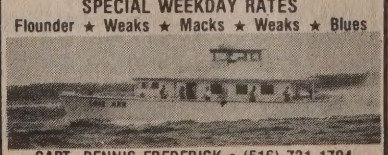

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few nice keepers mixed in. Mike Balsamo weighed in a 10½ pound weakfish taken Saturday night in Fire Island Inlet.

Dave Canale at **J&R Sports Center** spoke of lots of crabs and snappers inside Great River and its tributary canals. Good snapper fishing from the West Sayville Dock also. Customers continue to report taking lots of short fluke from the Lighthouse to the Inlet with an occasional keeper of 2-2½ pounds mixed in. Best action continues to the be the last part of incoming water and the first of the ebb. Blues remain settled in 60 to 70 feet of water SE of the inlet where they are being trolled, chummed and jigged. Fish are mixed sizes but have ranged up to 12 and 14 pounds.

At **Islander Canvas Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip**, John Albanese said that some customers noted a slight improvement in the keeper ratio for fluke this week. He also knew of blues in the 2-4 pound class taken at the inlet in the early morning and evening hours by umbrella rig trollers and those working with small diamond jigs. John fished 60' of water SE of the Lighthouse and landed atop a big body of bluefish on Sunday. He and his friends trolled and then jigged a mess of fish from 8 up to 17 pounds. Snappers now good size in Great River and crabbing remains good for those using traps.

Jim Romano at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** thought the ratio of keepers to short fluke was a little better this week though most are still shorts. On Saturday, Jack Pilkington worked the inlet with killie and squid combos and culled 6 keepers to 22 inches out of a horde of shorts. Some sea bass beginning to show near the R.M. Bridge. Cocktail blues come and go at the inlet with your best bet in the early morning or evening. Lots of crabs around but not as big as they were. Snappers now worth catching at all the local docks. John Cavanaugh and his family spent the weekend at the Canyon. They found no tuna but did tag and release an estimated 300 pound tiger shark.

Word on that 921 pound blue marlin came from Carl Miller at **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore**. The giant billfish, taken during the Capt. Bill's Invitational Tournament on Saturday, was landed on a custom 50 lb. class rod made by Smokey's. It was caught by Frank Agitto aboard his 27' Topaz, "Sea Duck". Carl had some other offshore news to pass along. He said that Anthony Montalto's 'Phyllis M' reported lots of tuna on the surface near the NA Buoy but were unable to do anything with them. Yellowfin tuna were trolled on Green Machines and Daisy Chains on Saturday in the vicinity of the Linda, Yankee and Virginia wrecks. Inshore, Mike Paulini loaded up with blues in the 6-8 pound class on jigs working 60 feet of water SE of the Inlet. This was on Saturday. Bluefishing east of the inlet from 40 feet of water on out has been consistent all week long for jiggers and troll-

ers. Cocktail blues are on and off at the inlet. Some big bass falling to live eels near the R.M. Bridge and also at the inlet. Carl looked over a nice catch of sea bass and porgies made in West Channel and at the Lighthouse on the weekend. The porgies ranged from ½ to 1 pound. A couple of 2 pound weaks were mixed in as well. The percentage of keeper fluke was just a little bit better this week at the Lighthouse and the R.M. Bridge. Last half of the flood tide and the first of the outgoing is your best bet for fluke. Crabbing is very good locally with George Lopez taking a half bushel of big blue claws in his traps one day during the week. Snappers now of decent size and in good supply at all local docks.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** said that fluke fishing is still made up of lots of shorts with 30 to 50 keepers taken on a good trip. Most trips see 15 to 25 keepers landed. An occasional bigger fish is mixed in. On Sunday, Patricia Bird brought a 7 pound 14 ounce doormat to the net. The boat's fluke derby pool is at $250. Bluefishing remains good with fish ranging anywhere from 3 to 14½ pounds. The fish average 3 to 8 pounds. Some nights do see a lot of 10 to 12 pounders making up the catch. George noted that he did have a couple of picky nights during the week. Fishing is being done south of Patchogue and south of the inlet.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Joseph II** spoke of continued excellent night bluefishing with most of the fishing this week taking place to the east off of Patchogue. Wednesday night however saw wild fishing as close at the Whistle Buoy. Shorts still dominate the fluke fishing but it appears that a few nicer sized fish are mixing in.

Capt. Andy Buglione of the **Captree** charter boat **Cap'n Andy** treated Wayne Tweedy and several of the mates to a Busman's Holiday on Friday. The group boated and released 4 brown sharks and dropped two others. Concerning the fluke fishing, Andy said it remains pretty much the same story with lots of shorts and maybe a few more keepers. He found a little better ratio working just outside the inlet and east of the pound net. Bluefishing has been excellent south of Cherry Grove. Andy reminded that he is now booking for fall sea bass and blackfish trips and that choice dates are going fast. Give him a call if you're looking to get in on this action.

Bobby Sprenger at **Captree Bait and Tackle** said that lots of short fluke continue to provide steady action for sinker bouncers. Bluefishing continues to be great with open, charter and private boats all sharing in the action. For shorebound anglers, the Captree Walk has been producing fair numbers of short fluke as has the Robert Moses Fishing Piers. Flounder are also at the latter spot. Snappers are around in good numbers and now

Eric Swanson boated this 4.11 lb. fluke near Kismet while aboard the Captree open boat, "Jib VI.

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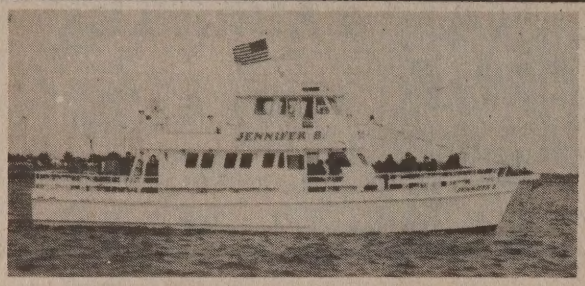

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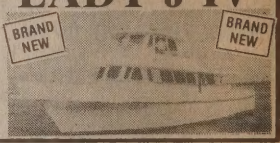

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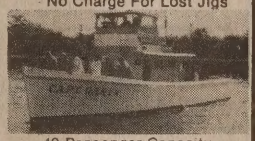

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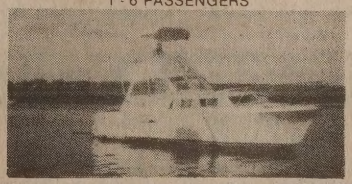

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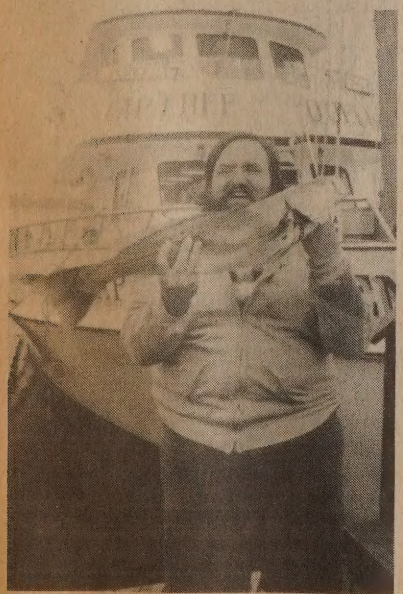

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becoming worthwhile targets on the Walk.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Captree** open boat **Speedy VIII** put in a word for the super bluefishing being enjoyed by his boat and the **Speedy VII**. He described the fishing as pandemonium with the action taking place south of Cherry Grove on most days and nights. One night saw a leap job close by to the inlet. Fish range anywhere from 6 to 12 pounds on most nights. A reminder that the Speedy VIII's first tuna trip is scheduled for Labor Day week. Watch the ads for more details.

Capt. Ralph Green of the open boat **Miss Babylon** called the fluking good with plenty of fish and a few larger ones beginning to show. Don Hodges had a 5.3 pounder on Thursday while 11 year old Tom Kreamer decked a flattie of 6 pounds 13 ounces on Sunday.

From **Babylon Fishing Station**, George Stevenson reported a catch of a 15 pound dolphin for John Rice on Sunday. He landed it aboard the **Tork I** in 150' of water SE of the Inlet. George described Canyon fishing as quiet of late. Very good bluefishing in 60' of water between the Lighthouse and Ocean Beach. The fish are being trolled and jigged. Fluke fishing continues to be plagued by shorts with some guys reporting catches of 50 to 60 fluke and only 1 to 4 keepers. A few bigger fish being picked just outside the inlet and east to the Pound Nets. Crabs and snappers in solid at the Village Dock and other Babylon area docks.

From Dick over at Frank and Dick's Bait Station in the State Channel, reports of quite a few tuna taken a little west of the Yankee this week. Tuna also trolled in the vicinity of the HA Buoy, the Virginia and between the Bacardi and the Tower. All were yellowfins in the 35 to 60 pound class. Dick looked over 5 smallish makos up to 125 pounds taken by various boats on the weekend. Lots of boatmen reported good action with blues in 70 to 80 feet of water south of Kismet.

From **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon**, John Gattuso reported lots of short fluke with an occasional decent size fish mixing in. He was more enthused about the good showing of big flounder in the Sore Thumb Pocket this week. Plenty of small blues come and go at the inlet with some bigger fish settled into the 50 to 60 foot depths southeast of the inlet.

Mike Andreani at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** knew of some good tuna action this week near the wreck of the Linda. All were yellowfins and they were being trolled on plastic. On Saturday, Ed Donnelly had a 50 pound yellowfin aboard his 'Rusty Hook'. It was trolled near the Yankee. One boatman reported via the marine radio that he had 3 yellowfin in the 50 to 60 pound class in his boat on the first pass east of the HA Buoy. Sharking was quiet this week but Rich Lucas used his chum slick to fool a 57 pound white marlin. He also reported

dropping a big mako while fishing aboard his 'Luke Fish' southeast of the Virginia. The marlin christened a new custom stand-up rod built by Mike at Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle. Fluke fishing improved slightly with a sprinkling of 3 pound fish checked in by customers this week. Still lots of shorts. Several boatmen reported lots of small weakfish in Hemlock Cove. A reminder that the state minimum size limit for weaks is 12 inches. Some bass being clam chummed at the Wantagh Bridges and liveliners continue to take some big bass in Fire Island inlet on night tides. Crabbing and snapper fishing very good at area docks. Joel Tetenes accomplished quite a feat on Saturday fishing aboard his brother John's Amityville based 'Jacqueline'. Joel, who is a parapalegic and confined to a wheelchair bested a 93 pound mako shark while fishing in 140 feet of water, 180 degrees out of F.I. Inlet. Rounding out the crew and handling the gaffing duties were Dominic Beatrice and Angelo Rufino.

Over at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** in **Lindenhurst**, Penny Schaefer said that she thought fluke fishing had improved just a bit with a few more keepers being reported by customers. Lots of cocktail blues to 4 pounds in the bay and inlet with larger blues in 60 to 70 feet of water southeast of the inlet. Lots of blue claw crabs and snappers being taken at the Town Dock at the foot of Wellwood Avenue. Tuna action was fairly consistent on all of the wrecks during the week with yellowfins being trolled on Green Machines and Daisy Chains. On Wednesday, Jim Koslosk, Peter Mannette and Jack Dunn put 3 yellowfin to 52 pounds aboard the 'Jean Marie'. They trolled Green Machines in the vicinity of the Yankee Wreck. Billy Piazza had a pair of 150 pound hammerheads chumming near the Virginia on Friday while Kevin Schussler paired a 175 pound hammerhead with a 100 pound tiger shark near the Yankee on Saturday. Nine year old Larry Fontana weighed in a 12 pound blue on Saturday while 6 year old Chris and 10 year old Jesse Brander accounted for blues to 10 pounds fishing in 60 feet of water SE of the inlet during the week.

Some improvement in the fluke picture with many shorts but a sprinkling of fish to 5 and 6 pounds. This according to Scott Smyth at **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**. Two to 3 pound blues are at the inlet mornings and evenings—just look for the birds. A few bass at the Wantagh bridges in the 20 to 30 pound class on bunker and eels. Outside, big blues in the 8 to 15 pound range with some smaller fish mixed in chummed and jigged on the Patchogue Grounds and at Cholera this week. Best bet for tuna is in the 120 to 150 foot depths and particularly in the vicinity of wrecks. Quite a few 50 pound class yellowfin tuna trolled this week in these areas. A few white marlin were with them.

On Saturday, John Durante had a

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small mako and a brown shark aboard the 'Sandpiper'. Same day, Ed Unkel aboard his new 31' Bertram 'Tin Man', trolled a 60 pound bluefin and chummed a small mako in 150 feet of water SE of the Inlet. Fred Walters on the 'Reel Affair' put together a nice catch of flounder at the Wantagh Bridge on Saturday and finished off the day by taking several keeper fluke at the inlet. Dr. Scott Patterson and Boy Scout Troup 115 combined a fishing and research trip aboard the **Tilichi**. Aside from their research, the youngsters found time to put away 8 keeper fluke and 2 blues. Crabs and snappers in good supply at local docks.

From **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera reported a 39 pound white marlin and 2 tuna to 43 pounds taken aboard the 'High Hook' on Saturday. The fish were trolled between the Yankee and the HA Buoy. On Friday, the 'Rum & Coke' worked near the Tower and put away 5 yellowfin from 70 to 100 pounds. The **Seaford** based charter boat **3 Sea Sons** did a pretty fair job on the yellowfin during the week on the inshore grounds. Blues remain solid southeast of the inlet in 60 to 70 feet of water on jigs and umbrella rigs. A reminder that the American Diabetes Shark and Tuna Tournament is slated for this Saturday. Call Gary at State Channel Marina at 516-864-3457 for more information.

West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

Going into the first week of August, we find the Canyon starting to come alive with yellowfin and bigeye tuna and various other offshore species such as white and blue marlin. Plenty of shark action. Tons of blues all over the place and a couple of scattered weakfish. Best keeper fluke action remains in the ocean, off Riis Park and at the channels. Inside, fat flounder can be picked in the deeper, colder holes. Snappers good and blue claws making a nice showing with scattered catches of pin bass and sand porgies on worms.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

From **Wanser's Tackle in Seaford** Marie tells of okay fluking along the Massapequa shoreline. Blues a super item from the inlets on out. There have been quantities of fluke and a few more keepers on sand eels and killies. Snappers have been a very

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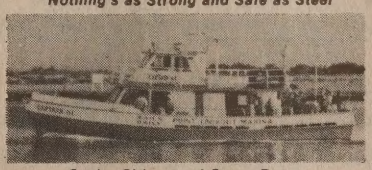

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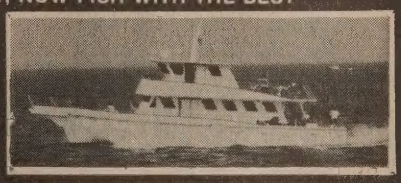

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good item size and numbers wise, from all the piers, bulkheads and canals, while flounder are being taken in the holes at the bridges. Some short bass obliging clam chummers at the bridges at night.

Skip at **Old Harbour Marina** called the fluking fair this week, with about a 10 to 15 percent keeper ratio, most keepers measuring at 15 inches. Some okay floundering at the deeper holes at Black Banks, at the start of the ebb. A couple of weakfish have been caught, mainly on fluke rigs and there are lots of small blue claws in the flats and snappers very good off the town dock.

Over in **Wantagh**, Mike at **Causeway Tackle** said that the fluking picked up a bit this past week with keepers now in the 20 to 25 percent keeper ratio. At the inlet, Reynolds and at Big M. Even so, there has not been the same total volume of fish as before. The keepers have been hitting big sand eels, spearing and killies. John Zuckerbrot had 14 keepers fishing spearing in the state channel. Flounder action has been fair at Black Banks and Big M, incoming tide on red clam and bloodworms. Snapper action has been very good on the north side of the bay but no BCCs yet. Blues a hot item southwest of Cholera to Ambrose Tower and the NB buoy on diamonds, fish 3 to 8 lbs. Mike had one customer who dropped an estimated 50 to 60 lb. white marlin while bluefishing at Cholera. The white made two jumps about 30 feet from the boat.

From **Merrick Tackle in Bellmore** we learn of some sand porgies at the third Wantagh. Two to four pound blues have been walloping diamond jigs tossed off the West End jetty. Plenty of short fluke around with a fair number of keepers in Reynolds and the local creeks, said Scott and flounder in the deeper holes around the bridges and north of Short Beach Coast Guard.

Over in **Freeport** JR at **Sea Isle Sports** advised that winner of the Capt. Bill's Invitational Canyon Tournament was Frank Egitto on the boat, Sea Duck with an approximate 970 lb.

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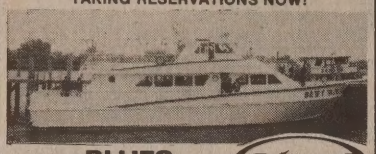

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blue marlin. Lots of tuna and marlin at the 500 square on the Loran chart. Blues off the beach and especially at 17. Flounder better than the fluke right now, feasting in the deeper holes in the bay.

On the **Starstream II** this week bluefishing was super fantastic Monday through Friday said skipper Richie Kessinger with high hooks going into the 70s. The weekend while not as dynamic was still good, seemingly affected by boat traffic. Fish have been averaging 4 to 8 lbs., with an occasional 10 to 12 lber. with a couple of bonito mixed in for the week.

A call from Captain Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** told of the excellent night bluefishing trips. The day fluke trips have had plenty of action, he said, with enough keepers to keep it interesting.

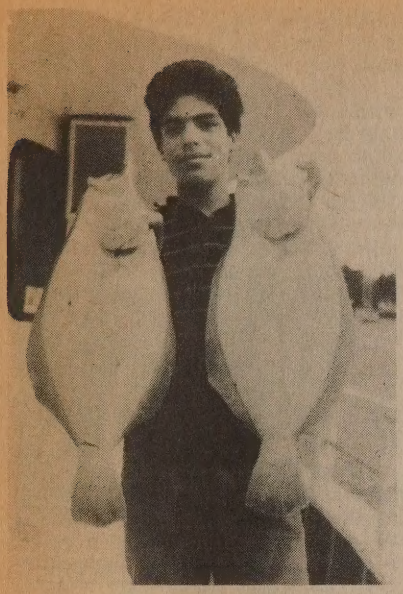
Aboard the charter boat **Apus III**, Skipper Mike Miller told of an excellent canyon trip this weekend with 2 blue marlin caught. The first was released, and was estimated at 150 lbs. The second was a 313 lb. bruiser which was brought back by the charter for a head mount. They also had 7 yft and a 100 lb. bigeye. During the night they hooked and released duskies and tigers to 500 lbs. It's all clean water out here, said Mike. During the week inshore tuna and sharking was fair to good. Doris Minor bagged a 125 lb. YFT. Five others were boated the same trip. White marlin at the 15 fathom curve have been good. A charter had 3, with 2 being released and one to be mounted.

Captain Sy Carlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** reported that the bluefishing continued excellent, fish to 15 lbs. on diamond jigs with tails daytime, bait and chum at night. Pools each day were going 10 to 12 lbs. Jerry Moranberg bagged a 15 lber., Bernie Bleschal, a 12 lber., Brian Seymour, 11 lber., Tom and Cappy of Connecticut, each 10 lbers. High hooks have been in the high 20s. Frank of Connecticut and Joe Rubino each 28 blues. A midweek offshore cod wreck trip saw an excellent catch of cod and pollock. A 35 lb. cod fell victim to Stan Umowski of Hanover Bank. Pools on the fluke trips have gone to 3 plus pounders for Linda Ottaviano of Sperry, Brian Mackenna, Tara Flynn and Mike H of the Will Rogers Foundation. Catches have been local and in the ocean on live killies and strip bait. Al Cavagnet of the Sons of Italy also had a 3 plus lber.

Word from the **Captain Lou Fleet** is that the full day boat continues to have good fluking, working the ocean and Jones Inlet with the bonus of bluefish being mixed in. Giant fluke of the week was an 8½ lber. for Steve Sullivan. The half day boat continues to pick away at the lingering flounder population, high hooks going into the teens.

Bob at **Freeport Boatmens Association** advises that the **Super Spray II** has been getting along with plenty of

SHEEPSHEAD BAY



Raymond Cohen shows a pair of fine fluke caught during a recent trip aboard the Sheepshead Bay based, "Apache V."

short fish a decent number of keepers up to 4½ lbs., as have the Association charter boats. The night bluefishing has been very strong, classified from super to decent on jigs days, bait at night. Full day fluke charters are doing well at the Tin Can. The **Mirage** fishing the Yankee Wreck area had yellowfin, shark and white marlin, while the Christy Lee fishing the canyon had yellowfin and a white marlin 8½ feet long, estimated at 100 lbs., big for these waters. A good tuna season is shaping up.

In nearby **Point Lookout**, the **Captain Al** reports tremendous bluefishing through Friday, all you wanted, fish 4 to 1 lbs., plus a couple of bonito and the bluefish SAVAGE. They are also spread out all over the place, said Al. Friday night was so-so and Saturday was super again with fares loading up burlap bags

On the **Night Hawk**, the skipper called fluking very good all week with a slightly increasing keeper ratio. Tuesday's high hook was Don Heis with 5 keepers to 2½ lbs. Thursday Sam Morton had 6 keepers, Frank Vjlaky, 7 and Al Panzica, 5 keepers plus a 3¼ lb. pool winner. Friday's high hook was Dave Gavrin with 6 keepers. Saturday's bluefish charter had super results with 15 anglers boating over 400 blues 3 to 4 lbs.

Captain Ron of the **Miss Point Lookout II** said that each half day trip is getting between 20 and 60 keepers per for customers. The numbers, of course, vary from day to day. Wednesday's PM trip saw 55 keeper fluke including Pete Vega's 3 lber. Fares are averaging 10 to 15 total fish, keeping up to 4 of them. The night bluefishing has been great said Ron, with high hooks in the 30s most nights, fish 5 to 10 lbs., working just 4 miles SE of Jones.

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Julio Ocasio displays a 7 lb. fluke he caught aboard the City Island based open boat, "A-pache."

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On the charter boat **Marie III** there was excellent bluefish action all week between buoy 4 and the BA, fish 6 to 10 lbs. Saturday's trip for Archie McQueen and party had a load of 3 to 4 lbers. SE of Jones off Gilgo. Sunday's trip for the Lee Wong group had excelent fluking action in Reynolds west to theABB and some back creeks, keeping about 20 percent of a 500 estimated fish total.

Ed's Fishing Station tells of fair to good fluking at markers 18 and 19 in Reynolds and in the flats. Flounder have been picked nicely in the deeps off the CG station and in Swift Creek. Pete Conklin had a 3½ and a 3-1/8 lb. fluke on incoming, live killies at the Loop Bridge.

We learned from Tom at **Scotty's Fishing Station** of North Merrick angler Jim Unrch who tied into and landed a 200 lb. stingray fishing from the Pt. Lookout jetty Friday. The ray was 11 feet wide with a tail measuring 7 feet. Local sharpie Joe fishing live bunker off the Pt. Lookout beach Saturday and Sunday at first light caught a 9 lb. 8 oz. weakfish and an 18 lb. striper. Try that area along with Big M at dawn and in the evening for bass and weaks on live bunker. Also try leadheads and jelly worms. The AM hours call for white or pink jellies and the PM angling call for bunker. Rentals are getting catches of both flounder and fluke, flounder in Swift Creek and Middle Bay. Fluke going to 4 lbs., but lots of shorts. Some pin bass on worms. Blues being trolled from the inlet to the R2 buoy.

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook** said there were very few keeper fluke in Reynolds Channel this weekend, but there were decent catches made on the green side of Ambrose Channel, not a whole lot but good size fish. Snappers of good sizes and numbers now all over the bay and super bluefishing offshore with 17 fathoms being especially hot with lots of shark in that same area also.

NEW YORK BIGHT

We learn from **Skippy's Tackle in East Rockaway** of surface plugs working on some bass in the flats. Blues excellent offshore, while the fluke are moving around offshore with best catches of keepers off Riis, Ambrose, Tin Can and the New Jersey beaches. Sand porgies and snappers in Bay Park. Weakfish in the early AM hours off the Pt. Lookout jetty and west bar on strawberry jellies. God flounder catches off Short Beach Coast Guard station and the deeper holes and lots of shark just about 1½ miles off the beach.

Sailing out of **Howard Beach** the charter boat **Thermocline** reports sharking was very good this past week, taking two makos of 180 and 120 lbs. during the week at the Mud Hole just west of the Arundo. Tuesday's fluke trip for City View Dry Cleaners saw fluke taken to 5 lbs. and just a few throwbacks on the north side of Ambrose Channel on sand eel-squid combos. Bluefish all over the place, said Capt. John.

Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle,** told of plenty of blues being taken from both bridges, A27s with tails bagging 4 to 5 lbers. and bunker chunks for bigger fish. Fluking has been very good in Jamaica Bay with a 50 percent keeper ratio. Mike Deery took an 11¾ lb. fluke on sand eel and fluke belly near the Marine Pkwy bridge, plus 4 other keepers Sunday. Mike Zullo nailed a 7 lb. fluke on killie and strip bait at Ruffle Bar along with 11 other keepers Thursday. Vin Riley fishing the seawall at Breezy Point nailed a 6 lb. fluke on squid and spearing. This was all on outgoing water. Lots of sand porgies on blood and sands on moving water. Lots of snappers and some bccs in Jamaica Bay.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay, Captain Bob of the **Flamingo III** called the bluefishing unbelievably super right through Friday with the weekend's bluefishing fair to good. Fish are generally running 3 to 12 lbs. with a few alligators mixed in. Action was

so hot on Friday that they called it quits at Noon. Daytime action was all on jigs and Bob said the last three weeks have been pure dynamite.

From Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** we learned that the boat had good fluke action this week with some bluefish mixed in at Ambrose Channel and Tin Can Grounds with fluke mixed to 6 lbs. The new all aluminum Zephyr has finally arrived and it presently being given the final cosmetic touches with additions of the latest electronics, etc. We haven't seen her yet, but hear she's a honey. Call for any info.

Skipper Al Coley of the **Betty W. IV** also said that right through Friday the bluefishing was as fabulous as you can possibly imagine, all the fish you wanted. Saturday through Tuesday it was 8 to 15 lbers. and Wednesday through Friday 4 to 6 lbers. Just a super bluefish year. Saturday was slow due to conditions but the skipper said the area is absolutely loaded with hungry bluefish.

North Shore REPORT
with Marty Carrell

The warmest weather of the summer and some flat calm days caused low oxygen "events" in a few areas of the western Sound. Windrows of dead bunker and some flounder kills were reported along the mainland shore and around Cold Spring Harbor. Otherwise, the summer scene was normal with fairly good bluefish action, decent fluking in Mid-Island and good scup fishing in most areas.

WESTERN SOUND

At **John's Gun and Tackle** in New Rochelle the talk about inshore bluefishing and snappers with some concern about fish kills in western inlets. **Jack's Bait** on City Island said that one of the most dramatic die-offs had occurred around Port Washington. However, the City Island area was normal with scup around Fort Slocum, New Rochelle and Gangway Rock and bluefish in the Hempstead area.

The **Glen Cove Sport Shop** felt that umbrella trollers were seeing more bluefish now with some bass still taken by livelining bunker. The accident ten days ago at the Roslyn sewage plant now appears to have been cleared up without any subsequent problem. John Palmieri explained that the beach access case has already gone through a preliminary hearing with the formal hearings

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Pete Pearson on the **Klondike VIII** spoke of good bluefishing for fish to 15 lbs. between Mamaroneck and Lloyd's Neck with four ounce diamond jigs. Except for midday lulls, fishing was steady all day. The scup fishing out of City Island has been quite good on the **North Star** and **Apache** during the weekdays when traffic is light and tolerable. Fleet interference drops the catches in half on the weekend trips when noise becomes a big factor. Fishing is in 28 feet of water, according to Pete Anderson with some days providing catches up to 40 porgies per fare. "Friday was a leap job," Anderson explained, "but we were mugged by the skeeter fleet on Saturday." Fish sizes run in the half to 1 lb. class.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** saw some good catches of fluke with keepers returning to the scene in numbers. The hottest area seemed to be Northport Bay around Sand City and Centerport, buoys 4 to 6. Best catches were ten fish per boat with lots of 2 to 3 lb. summer flounder. Ed Parent had four large fish from 3½ to 7 lbs. On the scup fishing scene there were good numbers in the Marshall Field area from Target Rock to Diamond Point; porgy sizes ran from a half pound up. The best body of bluefish appeared along the Bayville to Center Island side with mixed sizes between 2 and 12 lbs. A body of smaller choppers could be found between the golf course and the river.

Jerry Cedar at **Huntington Prop** saw some 6 to 8 lb. choppers in Huntington Harbor as well. There were a lot of weigh-ins at the shop last week, too. Brian Palmieri had a 3½ lb. summer flounder on Friday; Terry Giglio had 4 keeper summer flounder between 4 and 7½ lbs. on Saturday off Sand City. Walt Stuven added a 26 inch weakfish to his catch of 20 scup off Crane's Neck on Thursday and Charlie Burke had a steady pick of a couple of keeper fluke every day. The Papalexandrous, George and Jamie, had a fine catch of 25 medium scup on Saturday as well.

Candy Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** saw mixed sizes of scup off Old Field and Crane's Neck with very good numbers. Her suggestion for bluefish was to try buoy 11 early and late, especially around high water. The Pink House had a body of fluke, but you had to measure every one of them for possible keepers. There were some larger summer flounder off Crane's Neck.

Fred Laager at **Edelman's** called the summer fishing "ordinary" with not much going on for his customers. Warren Gehr at **Warren's Archery** told us that two of his best customers, Bill Greer and Rich Corcoran took first place in the North Carolina "Po' Boys" Tournament with a 500 lb. tiger shark. Bill at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** figured that small bass and small blues to 4 lbs., were still available in the area close to shore around Rocky Point and Shoreham. One 7½ lb. tautog was duly weighed from Wildwood.

The **Complete Angler** in Miller Place had a little of everything in the report. Scup seemed larger toward the Middle Grounds with some medium sized fish from Hagerman's to Rocky Point. Trolling in 45 to 70 feet of water close to the Middle Grounds produced a few bluefish and beach trolling was good for cocktails.

Tony Taverna of the **Morning Star** out of Port Jefferson listed two nice hauls of bluefish for his charters. Ben and Charlie Kessler loaded blues to 7 lbs. before picking a half dozen keeper fluke. The Rapare family enjoyed continuous action on choppers northwest of Crane's Neck. John Pellegrino of the **Noli-Eileen** enjoyed similar success. The Gonzales group had bang-up action on Ava jigs with more than three dozen choppers to 6 lbs.

Until Saturday, the **Port Jeff Ace** had excellent bottom fishing, according to Roy Cash. John Girolamo took a 40 scup haul off the day trip Tuesday and then had nearly 20 bluefish that night. Incidentally, that was one of the best bluefish bites in awhile with John Devine also scoring on over 40 choppers. As a rule, the daytime jigging from Norwalk to Crane's is good, with the nights usually picky. The **Prowler** has been doing very well on the open boat bluefish action. Fishing for scup on the **Ace** has been close to the beach around Shoreham with high hooks running 30 or better.

John Alberda of **Sound Charters** reported excellent bluefishing all week long with fish averaging 7-8 pounds and ranging up to 11 and 12 pounds. All of the fish were being taken on diamond jigs. On Tuesday, Andy Sukiel put away 70 blues. On Wednesday, the Norman Kennedy party had 80. On Thursday, Roger and Matt Walmsley and their friend Terry counted 65. Friday saw Jim and Jack Hare along with Don and Tom take 60 blues. John added that there are plen-

Captain Billy Collins with a 30 lb. striper taken in Huntington Inlet on a live bunker. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait and Tackle in Huntington.

ty of bass in local waters and the fall moons are being booked up fast. Big blues are now in the harbors and pretty much a sure bet on any given day.

NORTH FORK

The brown tide may have turned the Inner Peconic Bays murky and ugly, but the bay fishing still appears normal for the summer. Waters from Gardiner's Bay eastward are still clean and pleasing to tshe eye.

The Lorias at **Captain Marty's** had one splendid catch of scup off buoy 26 in the South Race with nearly 80 fish of small to medium sizes in the haul. There were some summer weaks off Rose's Grove as well. Again, this is normal summer fishing with snappers off the local New Suffolk Bridges.

Willie Stamtis at **Warren's Tackle Center** in Aquebogue saw good daytime trolling with wire and tubes for bluefish to 8 lbs. off Horton's Point. STamatis himself took a 6 lb. weakfish last week on a high hook rig while drifting. The scup fishing is now very good on most days off Mattituck Inlet according to Liz Caraftis at the **Mattituck Fishing Station**. Fishing is on both sides of the inlet. Jim Castagna noted one catch of medium scup off Horton's as well. Fluke fishing is a dead issue in that area.

Ruth White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in Greenport noted that the porgy fleet is carrying very well with good catches aboard the **Peconic Star II** and the **Brand X**. Dave Brennan celebrated the first days with his new craft with some good action in the Gardiners¶Gull-Sound triangle and he even had a 6¾ lb. fluke on Saturday for Oliver Elmore.

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Ace Cottral at **Pleasures of the Sea** told us that Ed Czelatka had a fine catch of medium to large scup on Saturday with the marina boats fishing around buoy 2, Constellation Rock. There were cocktail blues off Pine Point and Tony Loperfido of the **Fishalot** had a super catch of 16 summer flounder to 6 lbs. west of Orient in deep water.

Larry Ciccotto of the **Prime Time II** called to explain how unpredictable the fluke fishing could be. The four boat party boat fleet was usually covering the same four zones and finding decent fishing on two of every four days. Then it was "pick and grind" with an occasional keeper among scads of shorts. Paradoxically, there were some big fish around, too, with pools inevitably running four pounds or more. John Rainis on the **Sea Star** had some lovely large fish in his reports, especially on Saturday when he had a bunch of 4 lbers. His logs showed many fives, a few sixes and a pair of eights last week!

The **Boanne II** was trekking to Plum Gut for dynamic bluefishing for her daytrippers. Pete Izzo explained that, with some coaching, all his fares were learning the art of deep water jigging with 8 ounce jigs for blues to 10 lbs. or more. The average fish was a tailor of 4 pounds.

Richie Jensen of the **Nancy Ann** had a busy week that included one weekend tuna trip. Ms. Jensen said that Rich had three tuna in sthe strong southwest blow on Sunday.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Another rather lackluster week on the surf front which is to be expected at this time of the year. Still quite a bit of talk of action spread around the Island but not a lot of details available and not too many guys putting in a lot of hours.

Out in **Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch at Johnny's Tackle Shop said casters got in a couple of good innings with 3 to 5 pound blues along the sand beaches between Hither Hills and Gurneys. Tins and poppers accounted for lots of blues along this stretch on Tuesday. There was very good action with the choppers on Saturday behind Town and at Ditch Plains. Some school bass being taken in the early morning hours on droppers at Ditch Plains and also a fair number of schoolies settled in around Rocky Point. No word on any activity at all up front.

Thom Speckenbach at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in **Southampton** said there was pretty steady bluefish action

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along Southampton's sand beaches this week. There was a flurry of action with big weaks on both the east and west sides of Shinnecock Inlet with fish up to 12 pounds taken. Divers he spoke to reported that the big bodies of bass that were in evidence at the inlet earlier in the season seem to have dispersed.

From **J&J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, Paul Graniello reported that a few fellow Patchogue Fishing Club members have been picking away at some husky school bass on Shinnecock Inlet's east side. A few big blues being picked here on bait at night. Early mornings and evenings see flurries of smaller blues come and go. Paul reminded that approximately 2 miles of Smith Point Park is now open to beach vehicles.

On the negative side, Dave Canale at **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** worked from Friday evening to the wee hours of Saturday morning between the Sore Thumb and Democrat Point and saw only one 2 pound bluefish in his travels.

According to John Gattuso of **Augie's Tackle** in **Babylon**, some nice weakfish were taken from the inlet area this week but no specifics were being given.

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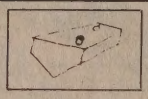

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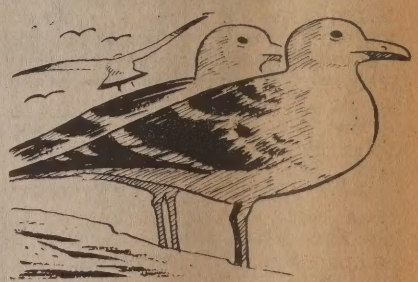
I do know that there were some big bass and some big weakfish taken on plugs and live bunker on Thursday morning next to the Sore Thumb. The fish were working over a big school of bunker. The next morning saw only one weakfish taken at the same location.

Speaking from **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** Scott Smyth said that 2-3 pound blues along with a few school bass were reported by a few customers working Fire Island Inlet over the past week. One local surfman treked to the Rockaways on Thursday night where he plugged a number of school bass to 12 pounds on Redfins. Bob Vitale reported small blues and school bass on plugs in the Long Beach area.

School bass being taken after dark and in the early morning at Breezey Point and Silver Point jetties and along adjacent beaches according to Charlie Beckmann at **Beckmann's Tackle** in **Lynbrook**. Swimming plugs working best at night with poppers taking fish at daybreak.

Up on the North Shore, Stan Hentschel at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** reported a good week with 2-4 pound blues along local beaches. Use poppers or tin in the early AM or evenings. Some school bass to 30 inches taken Wednesday and Thursday nights locally on minnow shaped swimmers and droppers. The Smithtown Bay shore has been producing small bass from 16 to 24 inches on night tides but no keepers are among them.



Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

Freshwater reports continued to come in drips and drabs as the combination of hot weather, bright sunshine and good salt water action kept most anglers off local lakes and ponds. The fishing pattern of early morning and late evening producing the most and largest fish, however, remained in effect. Those anglers willing to put in their time are still picking away at small to medium sized bass and inside the parks, trout remain receptive. Otherwise, fishing has

been slow.

From **Causeway Bait and Tackle, Wantagh**, Mike Nicoletti reports a little bass activity on North Twin Lake with some fish to 3 pounds. Most of this action has come just before sunset on small, dark colored Bomber, Rapala and Rebel plugs. To the east, Sam Bittern of Wading River has been using live killies to entice four to six small bass a night on Southard's Pond.

"Very slow" is the way that Fred Laager of **Edelman's Sportsman's Center, Centereach**, described this week's freshwater activity. About the only success story he had heard concerned a catch of twenty largemouth bass landed over the weekend on Montauk's Big Reed Pond. These bass were taken by Eric Loper, who mostly worked Texas-rigged, black jellyworms on the fish which ranged to 4.6 pounds.

From Fred Kruse of **Pine Grove Outfitters, Ronkonkoma**, we heard a little encouraging news regarding bass fishing on the big lake. While catches still remain on the lean side, some of the local "sharpies" have begun to fare a little better than in recent weeks. Fred knew that some of the regulars were picking two or three fish in the 4-6 pound class each evening. Those who don't know the lake are still finding the bassing tough, however. Panfishing and action with the cats has also picked up of late. Fish worms right on the bottom for these.

Over at Cuttings Pond, anglers are taking a few small bass every morning, reports Phill Briggs of **J&R Sports Center, Oakdale**. Patchogue Lake has also been giving up some bass and yellow perch early and late in the day. A few trout in the park, but nothing spectacular, round out the local action.

From the **Fisherman's Deli, Riverhead**, Mrs. Devlin informs us that the action on the Peconic River has picked up for her rental patrons. On Saturday, Ralph George used nightcrawlers to put away a mess of large catfish and yellow perch. Sunday witnessed Brian Moran nail two pickerel to 20 inches and several small bass. Brian got his fish at midday on Rapala plugs and noted that there seemed to be plenty of big fish feeding in the area.

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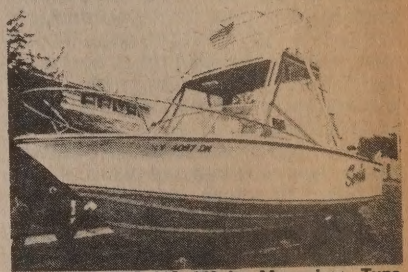

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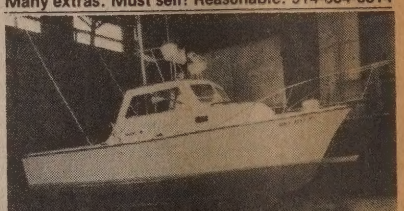
MAKO 23 I/B, 81 350 cu in. FWC engine. 200 hrs. VHF, dual batt., Raycu system, flasher, outriggers. Very clean. $9500. 749-2185.

PEARSON 28' Cruiser, 190 twin Chryslers. Sleeps 4. Newly upholstered, pressure sys., refrig., galley, dinette, VHF,. New helmseat, cover frame. SS rails fore/aft, 4 batt., dockside power, davits. Many extras. Must sell! Reasonable. 914-834-3814



28' COLUMBIA II—The Ultimate Fishing Boat. A chance to own a fully equip. 28' Sportfisherman. Turn the key & you're ready for sharks or any kind of fishing. The boat features tower w/full instrumentation, teak bow pulpit, teak transom platform & transom door. Powered by a Merc 260 hp FWC I/B w/170 gal. tank. In the deck are 2 big, insulated, flush mounted fish boxes. Accessories incl. Furuno 24 mi. radar, Robertson auto pilot, interphased w/Micrologic Loran. Features 3 Lowrance depth recorders, 2 digital & 1 paper machine w/dual transducer selection, a printing sea water temp, VHF & CB radios. Sports an auto anchor windlass, outriggers, trim tabs, SW washdown, full polyurethane flotation in hull & cannot sink. Built-in tackle boxes, 2 fwd bunks, sink, stove, marine toilet, shore-power hook-up & built-in batt. charger. Stored inside, ready for viewing & water ready. Boat is mint. All this for the low price of $49,990. For appt. to view it, call 516-862-9254.

MAKO ★WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL ★ EXPORT ★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL EGG HARBOR FORMULA
AL GROVER'S MAKO BOATS • (516) 379-7100 MAJESTIC MARINE • (516) 546-BOAT

1985 WILBUR/HUNT 38' CUSTOM SPORTFISH Twin Cat 3208TA; 150 hrs. Flybridge, wheelhouse or lower control stations, 8KW Westerbeke aux. gen. Rupp riggers, full electronics, stereo, microwave. Mint cond. Days: 212-765-8670. Eves: 212-860-3569. Merle.

LUHRS 340—offers more standard features than any other Sprtfisherman in her class, incl. the welded aluminum tower, compl. w/console. In stock along w/290 & 342. Also dealers for Sportcraft, Chris Craft, OMC Sea Drive; OMC Stern Drive; Johnson; Mercruiser. SPELLMAN'S MARINE, 1708 North Hwy, Southampton, NY 11968; 516-283-7907.

1985 GRADY WHITE 249 center console, 1986 275 hp Johnson w/1+2 warranty, custom T-top, outriggers, hydraulic steering, tilt & trim, dual batt., rocket launcher. $21,995. 516-239-2477.

STAMAS 26' 1971 twin 155 V-6 OMC I/O. Americana Fisherman. All gauges, digital tacks, Raytheon Nav 750 Loran, 1350 King chart recorder. Good free drop anchor winch. AM/FM radio sys., VHF, Raytheon Fathom meter & much more. Will Demo. Great offshore/inshore fishing boat. Excl. cond. $11,990. 516-273-2139.

FOR SALE:
1980 SILVER LINE 25' Cruiser, 260 Mercruiser I/O. Sleeps 5. Full galley, stand-up head, macerator, dual sta., 2 batt., 2 compass, VHF, CB, depth finder, Halon auto fire control sys., teak swim platform. Dockside power, trim tabs. Full canvas & screens. Interior in fiberglass & teak. All professionally maintained. Plus more. Price Neg. Bus: 516-654-1510.

MIDSUMMER SPECIAL—26' 1981 Shamrock center console, 250 Pleasurecraft I/B. Full keel. Low hrs. Full canvas. $19,500. Call or view at Ship Shop Co., Bass River, Cape Cod, MA. 617-398-2256.

20' PRIVATEER
PORT OF EGYPT, Southold; 516-765-2445.

1983 MAKO 25 CC; Rainbow Runner II, 1984 twin 150 hp Merc V6 O/Bs, 1983 Shoreline EZ Loader trailer, T-Top, rocket launcher, gin pole, outriggers. Full electronics. Rigged to the hilt. The ultimate fishing machine. $29,500. Eves : Wkdns: 516-277-4426.

SHAMROCK KEEL DRIVE I/Bs 17', 20' & 26'. Rampage Sportfisherman 24'-28'-31' I/B. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

DEALER CLOSEOUT SALE
Mariner Outboards; Dell Quay boats, Metzeler inflatables. NASSAU CYCLE CENTER, 516-931-7180.

42' CHARTER BOAT. 22 passengers. Wood, S.S. fastened. G71 diesel, hydro steering, flybridge. All equipt. Excl. cond. $25,000. 718-423-2685.

51' PARTY Boat "Dixie." 48 cap., 671. Excl. cond. Ready to go. Must sell! 516-541-4538.

1986 SEARS Gamefisher 1¾ hp O/B. A bass fisherman's dream, Brand new. In box. $250. Eric: 516-842-1640.

1983 31' JC Sportfisherman, flybridge, 3 station steering. Insulated fish hole, fight chair. Full electronics. V6 71TI diesel. $83,000. 1-203-838-0503.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

1984 GRADY WHITE Tournament 24', twin 115 hp Seadrives. 60 hrs. Tandem trailer. Many extras. Immaculate. $31,500. 516-265-0265.

1984 17' PROLINE center console, 70 hp Yamaha. Galv. trailer. All in mint cond. $6800. Eves after 6PM: 516-589-6599.

1978 GRADY WHITE Chesapeake 212 185 I/O. Trailer, VHF, recorder. $6000. 516-862-8790.

SUZUKI

SUMMER SPECIALS! 2-200 hp. Special prices on all V6s in stock. New 2-year limited warranty. JENSEN MARINE, 516-226-9739.

1983 FORTIER 26 Diesel. Loaded for offshore. 330 hrs. Call for list. PM: 516-269-9051.

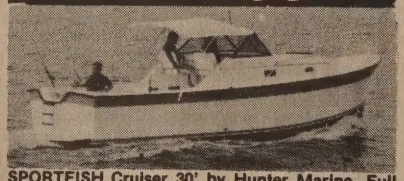
40' HARKERS ISLAND. Excl. party fishing boat. Needs some work. Incl. season dockage in Bay Shore. Twin 260 Mercruisers, radar, Loran, VHF, CB. Extras. $13,000. 242-3351.

25' WELLCRAFT 1977 cuddy, VHF, depthfinder, CB. New canvas. Rebuilt engine. Extras. Excl. cond. $8900. 516-422-6231.

1978 CENTURY 7000 Series, 27' 3. Sleeps 4; new Mercruiser 230 engine, approx. 75 hrs. Galley, stand-up head. new Bimini top, Side, aft curtains. Plus more. Excl. cond. In water at Montauk. $19,000. 914-693-4431.

20' WELLCRAFT Cuddy, w/galv. trailer. 175 Evinrude. Low hrs. Full electronics. Bimini top, dual batt. Extras. Mint. $8900. 516-483-5238. 516-483-8896.

Alura 30



SPORTFISH Cruiser 30' by Hunter Marine. Full keel design. 6' 4" cabin w/galley & head. Huge cockpit. Introductory special $40,645 w/270 hp. FOB. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

EGG HARBOR 33' Sportfisherman 1972, repowered, glass hull & bridge. Glass over wood deck. Generator, outriggers, electronics. Many extras. 914-769-4349.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1985, 1986, 1987 NEW
6-$598; 8-$698; 9.9-$948; 28-$1498; 40-$1598; 50-$1998; 88-$2698; 110-$3298; 225-$4998. SEALAND MARINE, 48 Merrick Rd., Amity Harbor, NY 11701; 516-842-1242. FOB/WI. Ship anywhere.

1981 AQUASPORT 24' center console, 1983 225 hp Mercury. Less than 100 hrs. Fishing electronics, canvas, outriggers. Many extras. Must go. $13,500. Jay, M-f, 9-5: 212-409-1881. Eves & Wknds: 914-636-1662.

1982 CRUISER INC. Sea Devil 25'. Bought new in '83. 26 L. OMC Sea Drive, full canvas, trim tabs, VHF, CB, chart recorder, Sea STemp gauge, 140 gal. fuel. Much more. Mint. Must be seen. $16,500. Eves: 331-9320. Days: 744-8882.

BOSTON WHALER 17', 1981 Johnson 70 hp. 1985 Trailer, fishfinder, Seahawk VHF, etc. Excl. cond. $4300. 212-325-8240.

SEACRAFT 23' 3" 1986 CC Blue hull, custom T-top w/electronics box, 350 Magnum I/O FWC, trim tabs, VHF, Loran, custom giant tuna chair on bow—Scoponich. 9.9 Yamaha aux. Extended warranty. $32,000. 516-422-1444, 668-3295900.

WELLCRAFT V-20' Cuddy. Fully loaded. 140 Evinrude PT&T. Galv. trailer, power winch. Compl fishing machine. Full electronics. More. $8600. 516-294-3059/421-9362.

1986 28' BAYLINER Contessa Sunbridge. Twin 225 hp. Fast & reliable. Sleeps 6; 2 in private aft cabin. VHF, CB, depth sounder. Loaded w/features. Too many to list. Like new; perfect cond. New boat coming. Must sell. $39,990. 516-666-2151.

30' Quiet running Work Boat, non-roller. Rebuilt FWC engine-val. $3000; 6 gal./hr. Gill nets, fyke, elec. pot hauler. Reasonable. 516-483-9598.

Sea Nymph

1987 Fishing Boats. Evinrude outboards. KELLY'S OUTBOARD WORLD, 1531 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia, 516-567-3417.

PAIR FWC 350 C.I. Chris Craft engines w/Paragon 2:1 gears. Excl. running. $2400 pr. Day: 234-4466. Eves: 581-3246.

60' CUSTOM BUILT Party Boat, 49 passengers, 100 miles. Can increase. 2 8V71s. Planking 1.5" Juniper. Excl. cond. Built 1978. New boat coming in June. Reduced for quick sale. $125,000. CAPT. JOHN, 15 First St., Waterford, Ct 06385; 203-443-7259.

1979 GRADY WHITE Sprint 17' 70 hp Evinrude. Trailer & full canvas. $3750. 718-225-4043.

WANTED: Johnson Evinrude O/Bs. Any condition. Will pick up. Used parts avail. 516-981-6487.

38' BERTRAM 1979, Turbo Cummins, tower, teak decks, cockpit controls. Windlass, generator, reverse air. Stereo, freezer, refrig., micro-oven. Murray chair, Avon raft. Full curtains & covers. Auto pilot, radar, VHF, CB, Loran, color recorder. Many other quality electronics & extras. Exceptionally well maintained. Offers over $135K considered. 201-223-8510.

BLACK FIN 29 1984 COMBI
Custom tower, sunshade & controls. T/454 Crusaders, 330 gal. fuel cap. Top electronics inc. Furuno radar, Furuno LC-90 Loran, Icom VHF, Raytheon JFV-90 video DF, 600 watt. Double spreader outriggers. Compl. rigged for big game fishing. Custom stand-up cabin. Low hrs. Mint. At Montauk. Serious calls only. Must sell. $80,000. 718-204-4777.

Continued On Next Page →

20' GRADY WHITE 1976 center console, 1981 Johnson O/B 140 hp. Trailer, Loran, T-tops, etc. Good cond. Must sell. $8900. 516-333-5543.

MIDLAND 19' 1984. Unbelievable hull design. Center console, 85 hp Suzuki, w/PT&T. 130 hrs. Dual batt., guest switch, isolator, etc. Moving to Texas. $8000. 718-769-3327.

21' WINNER 1973 cuddy cabin, 120 I/O Mercruiser. Closing out estate. Best offer closest to $3000 takes it away. Wkdys. After 6PM: 201-447-1977.

1975 19' ANGLER Cuddy Cabin 85 hp Mercury. Galv. trailer. Good cond. Loaded. Many extras. $4600. Eves. after 6PM: 516-698-7457.

1983 Chincoteague 20' All Glass. Flotation, center teak console & diving ladders, 140 hp Evinrude w/ power tilt & digital oil mixer, 60 hrs. Depth finder, CB, VHF, outriggers. Porta-Potti, auto bilge pump, canvas, galv. trailer w/power winch. Must sell. $11,500 Neg. 516-981-8516.

16' MIRROCRAFT, 40 hp Evinrude, Galv. trailer. Rigged to fish. Ask: $2500. After 5PM: 516-273-0485.

BOSTON WHALER 17' Montauk, 85 hp Johnson rebuilt. Excl. cond. $4500. 541-5974.

1986 PROLINE 20' center console, 140 Evinrude w/extended warranty. Full instrumentation, '86 galv. 2800 lb. trailer w/brakes, bearing buddies, Rule 1200 lb. winch. King 7000 VHF, Shakespeare drop mount ant., Humminbird 8000 LCD recorder, Aquameter 660 speed/log. Igloo 120 qt. cooler. 6 Perko rod holders—4 flush; 2 rail mount. Dual 85 amp batt. w/guest batt. isolator switch. $16,000. 265-2473.34' HATTERAS Sportfisherman. All glass. Diesels. Low hrs. Chair, riggers, gin pole, live baitwell. Full electronics. Fish proven. Bimini top, storm hood, teak swim platform. Reduced $25,000. 2-boat owner. Will take quick $49,900. Days: 516-369-0800.

31 BERTRAM 68, repowered FWC 427s. Out & down riggers, fight chair, 2 insulated fish boxes. 325 gal. fuel cap. Electronics pkg. incl. colorscope. Canyon ready & tournament tested. Disability prevents use. Make me an offer I can't refuse. 516-589-7005.

22 SISU, 1983 115 hp Evinrude, Loran C, VHF, 6" graph recorder. Loaded w/extras. $9500 or B/O. 516-653-6490.

1969 JOHNSON 20 hp. Good running cond. Will Demo. $300. Eves: 718-762-1625.

25' ANNA CAPRI w/Alum. trailer. Sportfisherman. Excl. cond. Fully equip. Must sell. Offers. 516-221-3764.

PENN YAN 23' Cabin Cruiser, 76 260 OMC, 9½' beam. Tunnel drive, galley, refrig., full head. Sleeps 3. Trim tabs, swim platform, VHF radio, D/F. Full canvas. Yard maintained. Low hrs. Beautiful cond. $10,500. 516-728-8007. 212-758-2422.

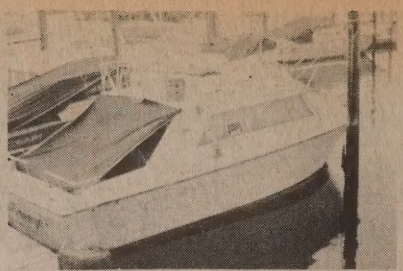
SEA OX 1984 Walkaround w/150 Mariner oil injected motor. SS Prop, dual batt., dual steering. Canvas, Bennett trim tabs, custom rod holders. Si-Tex Loran, recorder, VHF, Dytek sea temp gauge. Solid, reliable fishing machine. 2-boat owner. Will Demo. Excl. $13,500. 718-961-2341.

1984 MAKO 224, 1984 235 Evinrude VRO. Recorder, VHF, CB, outriggers, spray hood. Mint. 516-884-1805.

1966 26' MAC KENZIE Cuttyhunk 1976 FWC Mercruiser 225 hp. VHF, canvas wheelhouse. Some new woodwork. Boat & motor in very good cond. New boat on way. $8500. 516-378-7482.

1983 SHAMROCK Cuddy Cabin. Low hrs. Fully equip. $16,500. 929-4005.

SEA RAY 26' Amberjack family. 330 I/O Merc. Extras. Must sell. Best offer. 516-669-7059.



LUHRS 25' 6" Fiberglass hull & bridge, 225 hp Chrysler, 2 VHF, CB, Hynautic steering, sea temp. Outriggers, trim tabs, Flo Scan & much, much more. Good cond. $8750. After 6PM: 516-433-2022

GRADY WHITE 24' 1982 Weekender, 228 hp Merc. I/O, 1984 Shoreline trailer, VHF, depth-finder, CB. Plus much more. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

21' T-CRAFT H/T, C/C, 170 Merc I/O. Low hrs. Loaded. Family/fishing boat. Must sell. Neck injury. Price is right. 718-241-4137/7409.

27' SPORTCRAFT 1985. Low hrs. Twin 170 Mercs. Looks & runs like new/ Excl. for bay or ocean. 10' beam; used in water only 1½ seasons. $29,90. Can be seen at Manahawkin on wknds: 609-597-2724. Or wkdys: 215-257-2002.

32 WASQUE Flybridge Fisherman, 180 hp Ford TI diesel 6 cyl. 110 gal. fuel, 25 gal. pressure water. Radar, Loran, DF, VHF, outriggers, bow rail, pulpit. 516-473-6857.

GRADY WHITE 204 cuddy, 175 Evinrude, Full electronics, canvas. $10,800. 718-763-7482.

1974 25' CHRIS CRAFT Tournament Fisherman, twin 4 cyl. Chevy I/Bs. Full canvas. Fully equip. Ready for off/inshore fishing. With 1987 custom built tandem trailer. Everything mint cond. Forced to sell immediately. $13,500 or B/O. 516-725-0852.

1976 26' PACEMAKER Wahoo, 1981 FWC 270 hp. Electronics, O/R, chair, tower, N/C canvas. $12,500. 718-446-2255.

MAKO 25' 235 hp Evinrude & 35 hp aux. Rocket launcher, hard T-top w/enclosure. Murray chair on bow. Tackle cabinet, full electronics. Loaded. Mint. Cox trailer. Ask: $29,000. Montauk: 516-668-2715.

1980 23' PROLINE Cuddy Cabin, 175 hp Evinrude. Galv. trailer. Custom canvas, Loran, VHF, CB, stereo. Out/downriggers. Full instrumentation. Hydraulic steering. Much, much more. Total pkg. in mint cond. Boat in water in Montauk. Slip paid for season. $12,000. M-F: 201-767-7879. Wknds: 516-668-2499.

1985 FORTIER 26, diesel. Documented. Electronics, etc. Low hrs. Fast, comfortable, economical. Illness sale. 516-587-3796.

'86 WHALER Outrage 25', 275 Johnson VRO, Rocket launcher, leaning post. Bimini, spray encl., rear bench seat. Full electronics. $29,000. Montauk, 516-668-2715.

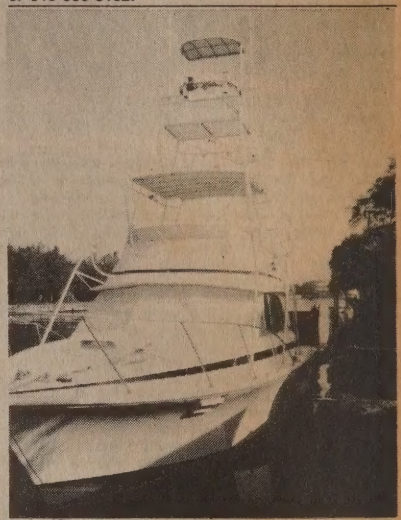
ANSWER 24' 1980 Center Console, 1984 155 hp Johnson, rocket launcher seat, VHF, depth finder, etc. $13,900. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

48' Party Boat CAPT. GUY, 6 cyl Palmer gas motor. Draft 4.5F + 13' beam. Neg. Any time, lv. message, John: 516-842-8191.

1980 BLACK FIN 25' Fisherman 350 hp Crusader. Full encl. & electronics. Compl. fish rigged. $23,500. 203-966-9330.

23' UNIFLITE FBSF 1984 225 hp I/B. All electronics. New alum. tanks, extra fuel, washdown. Summer covers, dual hyd. stations. Great cond. Key ready. $12,500. 516-798-2134.

1986 GRADY WHITE 25' Sailfish. Tower w/controls, twin 155 Johnsons 100 hrs. Furuno radar, Furuno color recorder, Loran, digital sounder, VHF, CB. Regency stereo sys. Dockside 110, H/W shower. Lee outriggers, chair, cockpit bolsters, enclosures & covers. Head w/pump out. Plus much more. Canyon ready; showroom cond. $60,000. Days: 516-293-7069. Eves: 516-968-8550 or 516-583-8162.



BERTRAM 35' '71 tower, electronics, encl., 10" color fish finder, Loran, VHF; CB, radio, intercom, dig. depth finder. Water temp, knot meter, SW washdown, live baitwell. Gin pole, Rybo outriggers, transom dr., 6.5 generator, 454 Mercruisers, tackle locker, dual 940 amp batt., Wilson 8-man raft, X fuel, air/heat, Micro, stove, ref., TV, VCR, stereo, tape player, bar. Bristol cond. 516-489-0940 Wkdy. 516-422-0880 Eves., Sat, Sun.

BOATING EQUIP.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG. INC.; 1121-16 Lincoln Av., Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.

RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS INC., 377 Woodcleft Av., Freeport, NY; 516-623-4421.

Fiberglass Hardtop 66X55 w/electronic box & rocket launchers. New. $500. 516-796-2265.

CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No job too small: tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY, 516-623-1639.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

ANYTHING MARINE Junk Yard. The computer brokerage for used parts. Manifolds to lower units, power trim to fighting chairs. New & used electronics, outboards, blown engines & used equip. wanted. 516-472-4887.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

BOAT HAULING. Complete dependable service; certified O/B repairs. Road service work guaranteed. SANA HARBOR MARINE, 516-666-2292.

CUSTOM STAINLESS WORK done to your specs. Heli-arc welded ladders, pulpit rails, T-tops, brackets, etc. Repairs. Small job specialist. Bellmore. 516-826-7809.

BOAT TRAILERS: EZ Loader. All sizes in stock. Immediate Del. Priced right. Trailer hitches installed. SEAHORSE TRAILER, Glen Head, NY. 516-676-5313.

FISHING TACKLE

FOR SALE: Penn 80W. Used one season. Excl. shape. Price-$400 incl. original carton & instruction manual. Bought newer model. Can be seen Fisherman office, Mystic, Ct. 203-572-0564. Can ship UPS.

ATTENTION Boat Bass Fishermen: Have 6 Lupo bunker spoons for sale: 2 small white, 2 small chrome & 2 large white. Some ready to fish; some need tail hooks. Will sell whole lote only for $25. Fisherman Office, Mystic, Ct. 203-572-0564. Can ship UPS.

ATTENTION Surfcasters: Wooden Bass plugs for sale. Have 6 GS-2 Gibbs in various colors, 4 1-oz. Gibbs Pencil Poppers, 2 1½ oz. Pencil Poppers & 3 wooden versions of Atom Jrs. Will sell whole lot only for $30. Fisherman office, Mystic, Ct. 203-572-0564.

CATCH MORE FISH—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ 07032.

MITCHELL 498 Pro Reel skirted spool spinning reel. Manual pick-up, ball bearing large line capacity. Used very little. Fast 4.1-1 gear ratio. $50. Can be seen Fisherman office, Mystic, Ct; 203-572-0564. Can Ship UPS.

7 Matched 50 lb. class rods; Fenwick blanks, aluminum butts; 5 - 50 Internationals; 2 - 50W Internationals. All w/80 lb. line. All in mint cond. After 5: 516-667-0317.

DIAMOND JIGS, LURES, HOOKS
and other fine tackle at sensible prices. Free catalog. TERMINAL TACKLE CO., Box 427, Kings Park, NY 11754.

2 PENN Internationals 80-W dacron line, 2 custom rods 80 lb. Aftco roller guides, aluminum unibutt. Mint cond. 516-798-4356.

LATE! LATE! LATE! It's not too late. EDELMAN'S. See ad Page 2.

MISCELLANEOUS

RECORDER PAPER at substantial savings. Prices for 6 rolls: Si-Tex 4"-$23. Lowrance X15-$24. King 6"-$29. Lowrance lined 1510-$29. All others avail. p/h $2.50 addt'l. NJ res. add 6% sales tax. Send check or M.O. to: JP PAPER CO., P.O. Box 149, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442; 201-838-9324.

LORAN Numbers for 60 of the area's hottest wrecks, reefs & fishing spots are avail. on a 4"x5½" fully laminated card which is waterproof, durable & compact. Simply send $5 to: DE MAPO ENTERPRISES, 1204 Ave. U, Suite 1231, Brooklyn, NJ 11229.

BROTHERS BOAT CLEANING SERVICE
Washing, waxing, interior, exterior. Weekly, monthly, seasonal. Bottom painting. Spring, summer & fall services. Power washing, teak cleaning. For free estimates, call the professionals. Tom or Phil: 516-265-0265.

LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Av, Dept. E, Central Islip, NY 11722; 516-234-0144.

SURF FISHING GUIDE & TUTOR
Personalized Surf Fishing Instruction with LIF Editor & Surf Fishing columnist, Fred Golofaro. North & South Shores; Montauk. One or two anglers—day & night trips. All tackle supplied. 516-581-0077.

WANTED: Fishermen to share expenses. Boat in Montauk. Flounder, cod, weaks, porgies, tuna. Eves: 516-671-7690.

PENSION PLANS: Get the right one and fish for the rest of your life. THE RETIREMENT PLAN CO. OF L.I. 516-627-5569.

DIESEL FUEL—Premium diesel fuel delivered to your boat. Buy direct & save. 422-2258.

INSURANCE: Boat, home, auto. Low rates. All Risk. ROYAL BROKERAGE, Hauppauge, Jericho, W. Islip. 516-435-1666.

Full back Camper Top for 25'-26' Carver Santa Cruz. Excl. cond. $300. 914-226-4586.

FISHERMAN to Share Expenses: blues, shark, tuna, etc. 26' boat at Montauk. 914-226-4586.

REPOWERING? Marine motors professionally rebuilt. Every motor factory bored, balanced, 100% rebuilt, installed in your marina. Guaranteed. T&L MARINE, 718-767-9542.

INTERSTATE Trailing; boat & car hauling. Special Montauk rates. Dave: 883-3958.

BOAT OWNERS! Professional marine repairs. Fiberglass & mechanical. KERRY MINDICH Mobile Marine Service Inc., 581-4246.

VIDEOS

The most exciting Bluewater Videos ever produced! Free listing & price list. Write: BRAID PRODUCTS, Box 1305 FM, Woodland, CA 91364.

Fish Mounting Special: 1/3 off reg. price. INWOOD TAXIDERMY, 20 Madison Ave., Inwood, NY 11696; 516-239-7716.

HOUSE PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

MERCRUISER Sterndrives repaired & overhauled. Rebuilt outdrives for sale. Trim cylinders rebuilt. HIGHLAND MARINE, 516-587-7567.

CUSTOM MADE parts of aluminum or stainless steel for your boat, trailer or RV. Brackets, rod holders, base for a fighting chair, etc. No job too small. 516-981-0698.

BAIT & TACKLE SHOP: Estab. 10 yrs. Sunrise Hwy location. Retail, wholesale, computerized parts dept. Open year-round. Long lease/option on Bldg. Ask: $250,000. 516-378-9251.

WINTER STORAGE & '87 Summer Dockage avail. in Seaford. COMPASS ROSE BOATWORKS, 516-783-3220.

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RELIABLE MARINE SERVICE
We come to your boat. Tune-ups, troubleshooting, rebuilding. Factory certified. Free service calls. BOB LEATHERMAN, 516-321-4550.

BOAT SLIP needed for 25' boat. Bay Shore, Brightwater, W. Islip area. R. Stewart. H: 516-666-6316. W: Sears, 666-7300.

WANTED: Fishermen, Retired, 2-3 days week. Share expenses, 34' boat. W. Islip area. 669-3571.

CUSTOM MADE Denim Rod Covers. Specify length & 1 or 2 piece tod. $19.95 +$1.50 p/h. 2 initials-$1 extra. Send check or M.O. to: SCANLON, 272 Lathrop Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314.

FISHING BUDDY WANTED: Male/female, retired, non-smoker, non-drinker Knowledge of Moriches Bay. 19' Aquasport. Moored in Mastic Beach. 399-4622.

STRIPED BASS PIN: Lifelike solid cast metal Striper with a large, securely locking pin on back. Looks great on cap or jacket. Antique silver finish. 3¼" long x 1¼" tall. Send ck. or M.O. $8.95 +$1 p/h to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN: Available for water deliveries, boat/navigation instruction; charts & trips. 516-795-4498.

LINE SPLICING: eye splices, back splices, 3-strand, or double braided. 516-725-9311. Ask for Doug.

BOAT CLEANING: Washing, waxing, interior & exterior cleaning. All types of cleaning service. Weekly, monthly, seasonal rates. Special spring open-up service. Call for free estimates. LIKE NEW BOAT CLEANING, Richie: 516-826-3699.

HELP WANTED—Full & part time retail sales, stock, shipping. MERRICK TACKLE, Bellmore, 516-781-7766.

NEED A SCUBA DIVER? Call DOUG'S DIVE SERVICE, 516-725-9311.

AVAILABLE at last! Beautiful full color print of artist Gary Patterson's famous painting. "Half Day Boat." You won't believe detail & crazy activities going on aboard. If you've ever fished on party boats you'll really love this print. Size 18"X 24". Looks fantastic framed. Only $9.95 +$1 p/h to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

LICENSE PLATE FRAME says it for you—"I'd Rather Be Fishing." Non-rusting, hi-impact, black polystyrene w/raised white letters. 1-$4.95; 2-$8.95 + $1 p/h. Send ck. or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Satisfaction guaranteed.

FISH IDENTIFICATION CHART: Shows 42 saltwater species native to our North Atlantic coast. Lithographed in beautiful lifelike color on heavy coated stock. Measures 30"X48". Suitable for framing. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send ck or M.O. for $13.95 +$1.75 p/h to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

BEACH BUGGIES

The Ultimate Beach Buggy: Aluminum step van camper, w/refrigerator, freezer, bath, 45 gal. FW, stereo, CB. Must sell. $3850. 516-728-2797.

TOW Vehicle with heavy duty suspension & hitch. Good rubber. $500 or best offer. 516-668-2129.

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MONTAUK: Heart of the Harbor. Walk to fishing boats. Waterfront 2BR cottages, apartments, studios. Cottages accommodate up to 6 persons. Montauk Soundview, 516-668-2771/668-9152.

RENT Farmhouse—230 acres. Walk trout streams, reservoir. Reasonable. Sleeps 4. Equipped. Lower Catskills. 516-431-8021.

HOUSE FOR SALE By Owner: West Islip, LI. Cedar Pt. area. Only minutes from Fire Isl. Inlet. Walk to deep water mooring, launch & beach. 8 rooms. L-shaped split level Ranch. Excl. school dist. Great home for fisherman's family. Ask: $285K. 516-587-9743.

MONTAUK—THE LANDINGS
1 BR Co-Op on Lake Montauk. "New England Village" setting. Pool, sauna & pvt. boat slip. Fully furn. harbor view & more. Good income investment. Be ready for season! $85,000. Call Now: 516-668-2211. Patti.

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Prime waterfont, 1/2 acre lots w/cement bulkhead. Only $62,500 w/low down payment. Situated in exclusive Punta Gorda near Gulf. Ideal for any size boat. Hurry! Only 2 lots left. 718-520-0010.

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All modern, detached, 2BR doll house on protected canal. Short distance to the Atlantic. Many unique features incl. reinforced concrete pilings & bulkhead, redwood deck. Low taxes. Move-in cond. $250,000. Owner: 718-891-8346.

MONTAUK: Beautiful Cottages for rent on the cliffs overlooking Ft. Pond Bay. In-between Harbor & town. Daily; weekly. 516-668-2071.

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We will fill any Big Game Reel with Berkley Big Game Trilene Line...

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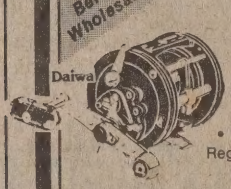

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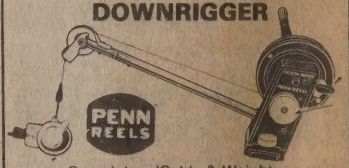

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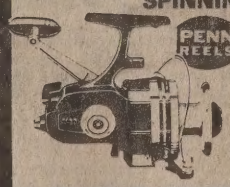

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Heavy duty construction and wide oval shape allows pressure to be distributed over a greater area. The durable closed cell pad and nylon belt will last a lifetime. Specially designed to combine both the east and west coast "standup" rod style.

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